Legend

Portage Journals

272 SHEETS

COLLEGE RULED

9 X 12 in (22.86 X 30.48 cm)

5 SUBJECT NOTEBOOK

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- CHRISTOPHER BRUSCK, 12 - KRISTOPHER ENSTROM II

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FOOTBALL GAME VS. HOBART
AUGUST 22, 2003, AT THE WARPATH

STUDENT LIFE - 14

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FINAL SCORE: 6-2, 6-2

GAME, SET, MATCH
SEPTEMBER 11, 2003, AT HOME

SPORTS - 62

ELKINS TAKES IT ALL HOME

Defeats Charlie Pinkleton 10-9

WILT- ON March 21st, senior Darren Elkins won first in the IHSAA individual state finals for the 140-pound championship. That night, Elkins defeated Greencastle's senior Charlie Pingleton 10-9, who was going into the state championship tournament undefeated. ... placing five, each

- STEPHANIE CHADDOCK, 11 - JACQUELINE BARNUM, 11 - SARAH TUGURIAN, 11 - JESSICA RAFFET, 11 - CATHERINE ANDREWS, 11

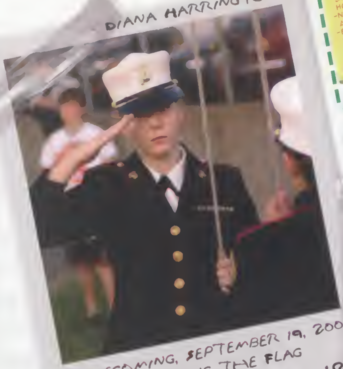
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION
NOVEMBER 19, 2003, IN THE COMMONS

ALBUM - 132

+ attitude = + day

... wrestling team ... Although the team didn't win the state champic... all put in an outstanding effort, and can't wait until next season to take it all home.

DIANA HARRINGTON, 11



HOMECOMING, SEPTEMBER 19, 2003
J.R.O.T.C. RAISING THE FLAG

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ORGANIZATIONS

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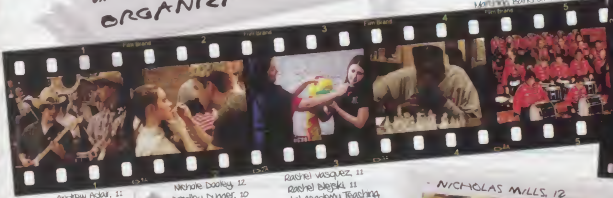
Life is like a game of chess, changing with each move. pg.

Student Body President Crystal Delgado was Fall Homecoming Queen, September 19, 2003, at half time of the football game against the Crown Point Bulldogs. Boy were they barkin up the wrong tree. Final Score 12-6

Marching Band at the Pep Rally



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Pep Band @ B-ball Game

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Rachel Vasquez, 11
Rachel Blejski, 11
Dental Academy Teaching

PHS S... ...uncil
Presents...
"La Bella Notte"
Winter Dance 2003
Saturday, December 13, 2003
8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
20.00 per couple
Semi-formal D...
Pictures
7:30p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

WHAT EXACTLY IS A HELLA NOTTE?

- NICHOLAS MILLS, 12

... POW WOWS AGAIN
...2004, IN PUBLICATIONS

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PAGE

MISSING

PAGE

MISSING

As our high school years began, a whole new life was presented full of complicated formulas, tile colored staircases, and uncommon, intimidating territory. Like in a notebook, the pages of our early years are fresh, clean, and unmarked. The empty spaces wait to be filled with dreams and goals for the future. Just as in our lives, we fill the spaces in our notebooks passing through our school years growing, changing, and developing into the people we are today and the ones we will soon become tomorrow.

Our desires for the future have their own ways of unfolding. Some are kept silent, meandering throughout the filing cabinets of our minds, while others are expressed by striking a pose, singing in tune, or reciting a lyrical rhyme. Many times these ideas and hopes are even

Samantha Ellis, 12
Allison Sattler, 12
Kathryn Eyermann, 12
Prom Fashion Show

Freshman Baseball
@ Home Field
April 28, 2004
vs. Boone Grove

Jade Martinez, 12
Brie Hettrick, 11
Backstage CHICAGO
Opening Night

Girls Tennis Team
on Home Courts
vs. Highland
April 28, 2004

Senior Class @ the Pep Rally September 18, 2003 Homecoming Week

Up Close While Giving Blood @ the Red+ Blood Drive December 10, 2003

Junior Float @ Homecoming Parade September 18, down Central Avenue 2003

Mid-Year Graduates @ Mid-term Graduation January 25, 2004 in the South Gym

Andrew Stills, 10 Stretching before the high jump @ Portage Relays, April 24, 2004

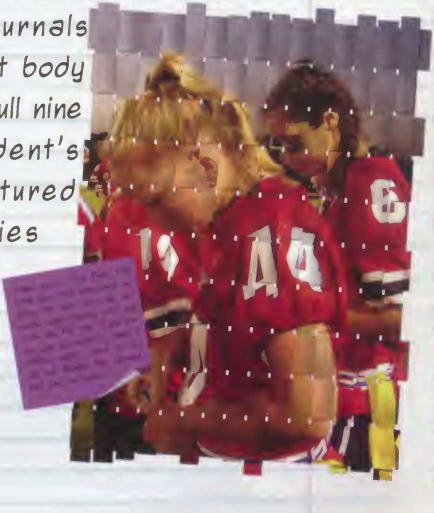
Deep in thought while on the fall Future Helpers retreat, senior class Valedictorian Ava Gibson writes in her journal. Gibson applied and was selected to come back as staff on the fall retreat and wears her rainbow staff hoodie proudly representing her role in the experience.

jotted down during spare minutes in various classes throughout the day.

Notebooks give us the opportunity to express our daily emotions by filling in between the lines. Not only are they used for capturing one's thoughts and emotions, but also to show off one's artistic abilities.

It can be looked upon as a new chapter of our lives when one notebook has ended and a new one is started.

The Portage Journals represent the student body as a whole. It is a full nine months of a student's recorded life. Captured inside are memories pressed and forged in photographs and ink distinguishing this year's individuality.



Iraqi people stand and watch as Saddam's statue is being pulled down symbolizing their new freedom with him gone.

Saddam in custody

Capturing the Ace of Spades!

story by Kati Hajduk

It was 8:30 P.M. Baghdad time on the 13th of December, 2003, when the extensive search for the Ace of Spades came to an end. United States military forces captured president of Iraq, Saddam Hussein.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, we got him," U.S. Administrator L. Paul Bremer told news reporters at a news conference when the government released the news that Hussein had been captured.

Hussein was living in a 6 foot-deep vertical tunnel, with a shorter tunnel branching out horizontally from one side. A pole to the concrete surface at ground level provided air for the tyrant.

Hussein was captured in a farmhouse outside the city of Tikrit. With his face full of hair and dirty, he was reasonable, surrendering without a fight.

"I have a message for the Iraqi people: You will not have to fear the rule of Saddam Hussein ever again," stated President George W. Bush. Bush also made a statement that Iraqi people were finally able to be free because Hussein is no longer the ruler of the people of Iraq, meaning they will have an opportunity to live a better life.

Bush was said to be in Cape David when he heard of the amazing news. Before the generals in charge made an announcement of the capture, Bush gave orders making sure that they held off on releasing the information until tests could be done to assure that it was Hussein without any doubt.

United States troops went to Iraq to disarm them of their weapons of mass destruction, to end Hussein's support for terrorism, and to free the Iraqi people. The United Nations ordered Hussein to give up his weapons of mass destruction, but he claimed that there were no weapons, such as tear and nerve gas.

Hussein, who was president for the past two decades, was being charged with genocide and killing his people with nerve gas. When the U.S. troops warned him that they were coming to get him and his weapons, Hussein ran off and hid for many months. In that time, a war began and many were killed. Hundreds of U.S. soldiers have been killed and wounded; hundreds of the faithful followers of Hussein were also killed during the war.

With the argument of whether the Iraqi people are now safe or if Hussein's capture will make their lives worse, American military troops have been commanded to stay in Iraq to monitor everything.

Jennifer Wil
Block 4

Mission to Mars

Spirit arrived on Jan 4th to the Gusev Crater and Opportunity on Jan 27 2004 at Meridiani Planum

They will use their specially equipped scientific instruments to identify the composition and mineral makeup of rocks

The rovers can detect hazards and maneuver around them

Mars may be a fossil graveyard, recording the chemical composition that fostered life on Earth

The rover extends an arm with tools on the end to inspect the selected rock. A microscopic imager will give a close-up view of the rock

Fantasy visions and ideas of Mars have been taken as science fact for the last 40 years. Past discoveries due to the Mariner 9 and Viking missions, revealed channels that perhaps were cut by waters of ancient martian rivers. The Mars Exploration rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, are continuing our journey to Mars.

Mars' perception started to become more realistic when the first robotic spacecraft were sent there in the mid 1960's. The Soviet Union sent the first craft in 1962 but it proved unsuccessful since contact with it was lost before it reached the planet.

The Mariner 4 was the first successful flyby of Mars in 1965. Mariner came within 6,118 miles of Mars and returned 21 close-up photos. Soon after, images of a desolated world scarred with gigantic impact craters similar to the ones on Earth's moon were viewed by the public.

Spirit and Opportunity, are searching for apparent evidence of the history of water on Mars. On this quest for new discovery, understanding whether Mars could ever have harbored life may come to our knowledge. Although Mars appears unlikely to have life existing on the planet, scientists believe the possibility that complex organisms may have gained a foothold in ancient times when Mars may have been warmer and wetter.

Due to biologists discovering that microbial life has an amazing flexibility for surviving in extreme environments such as hot, cold, dry, or under immense pressures, scientists views on Mars has changed. Scientists will have a better understanding of the history of liquid water on the planet, which is one of the key aspects to understanding whether Mars was ever alive or not, by the mineral makeup of martian rocks.

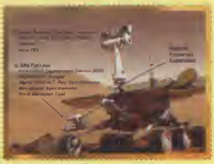
The Mars Exploration Program will complete this journey to understand the role of water on Mars by placing roving robotic geologists on the surface. Both rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, will analyze rocks and soil for three months looking for clues to wet environments from the planets past.

This exploration may be even more fascinating and bizarre as we unfold the hidden truth behind Mars' history.

Craters on Mars' surface

One of the Rovers

Parts of the Rover



photos courtesy of www nasa org

MTV Pleases & Teases

MADONNA, BRITNEY, AND CHRISTINA SHOCK 'HOLLYWOOD'

Every once in awhile there is something that makes you look twice. On August 29, 2003, at the MTV Video Music Awards, pop queens Madonna, Britney Spears, and Christina Aguilera opened the show with a surprise performance of "Like a Virgin" and "Hollywood." No one knew these three lovely ladies would be the secret opening, but as soon as Britney came on stage singing "Like a Virgin" the crowd went wild.

In the beginning, Britney came out of the top of a wedding cake in a provocative little outfit with a veil and flowers, portraying the part Madonna played at the first VMA show in 1984.

Throughout her performance, you could tell she had ripped off Madonna's moves by rolling on the ground. Christina Aguilera soon approached the stage in another very small, provocative outfit, singing the second verse to the same song. Then, in a blink of an eye, Madonna, the one who started it all, was raised from the stage while singing her signature song from the Gap commercials, "Hollywood."

While Madonna was singing her song, Britney and Christina pranced around like Romie and Michelle in the background singing vocals when needed. In an instant, Madonna grabbed Britney's chin softly and planted a kiss on her. It looked like it had been planned considering the fact that Britney slipped some tongue as soon as their lips touched.

After kissing Britney, Madonna turned to Christina and kissed her too. Most likely, no one at home got to see the second kiss because they were in a state of absolute shock as cameras focused on Justin Timberlake's irate face immediately following the first kiss. At the end of their performance, they were praised with a standing ovation.

The next day, it was the talk of the country. Everyone was going crazy about the kiss.

"I didn't see it, but I think it's gross. If they want to do it than go ahead, but I still think it's gross though," said senior Maria Bellville.

Many people were disappointed with the actions of the three role models, considering children look up to them. Parents all over the country looked down upon the kiss believing it as being more than just a friendly greeting.

Even now when asked about the kiss, Britney swears it was not planned and says she just went with the flow. Christina, mad about the publicity of just Britney and Madonna, doesn't like to talk about the whole situation because she isn't considered to be involved.

The 2003 Video Music Awards will go down in history and will always be remembered as a break through year for television. As for Britney and Madonna, they will never be able to forget about there televised kiss and neither will we.

iTunes Take Over

[illegible] — Every day millions of students and adults take part in one of the most common [illegible] in modern day America known as music downloading. Music downloading has been growing and prospering as an alternative way for the music loving public to get their hands on the latest hit tunes.

In the early '90s, a phenomenon known as Napster invaded computers across the country, changing the face of the music industry forever. Today, in the year 2003, music downloading is a [illegible] dollar industry in itself. As the general public is well aware, music artists [illegible] with the company Napster and [illegible] were [illegible] concerning free music downloading.

"I could care less, I don't download any music so it doesn't effect me," stated senior [illegible] about the fuss in the music industry concerning music downloading.

Music downloading is changing rapidly because of the highly publicized controversy between the music industry and the internet downloading fans. Companies such as [illegible] with the business of having customers pay for their music. One of the pioneers of [illegible] music downloading is iTunes.

iTunes is known as the "best digital music jukebox, with a great music store inside that [illegible]." Many music lovers are unaware of this fast pace way to download music files, while having the access to search, preview, and buy music of all genres.

"I do not download music. I would prefer to own the CD," said senior Elizabeth Dilts, commenting that, "I like to hold the CD in my hands and actually read the CD sleeve."

The types of music offered on the iTunes website varies from R&B to Country. With the music [illegible], everyone is sure to find their kind of music on the site. ITunes incorporates not only music downloading but offers many other exciting and innovative features.

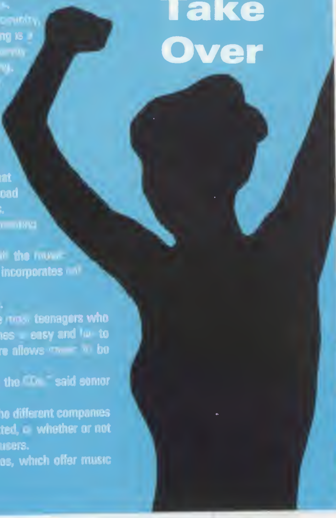
iTunes is [illegible] to allow remote streaming access to your personal music library.

Whether or not you are an avid computer user who is knowledgeable or if you are like most teenagers who [illegible] chat with friends and download the hottest new singles, iTunes is easy and fun to use, if you don't mind paying a small fee. At just $0.99 per song, the iTunes music store allows music to be downloaded quickly and efficiently.

"I like to download music. I have lots of CDs, and it's easier and cheaper than buying the CDs," said senior [illegible].

Music downloading undoubtedly will not go away any time soon, so why not explore the different companies [illegible] the views and opinions, whether or not music downloading should be permitted, or whether or not music downloading should have a price, is no doubt different amongst teens and other users.

Overall, iTunes is a fast and effective alternative to Napster and the other companies, which offer music downloading [illegible].



BLACKOUT CAUSES CHAOS OUT EAST

New York State and Ontario Among Effected, Maintenance Failure Leaves Millions in the Dark

WILT On late Thursday afternoon of August 14, 2[illegible] the biggest blackout in world [illegible] te[illegible] and Great Lakes states and [illegible] nce of Ontario. The blackout left over 50 [illegible] questioning the reliability and sec[illegible] of the electricity generated in the [illegible] States.

On August 14, when the blackout struck, six million Michigan residents found themselves without electricity. [illegible] North America, millions of people were reminded of how vital this country's electric grid has become," said Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) Chair J. Peter Lark.

The 2003 Blackout was under investigation by the United States-Canada Task Force, concluding that the FirstEnergy Corporation (FE), headquartered in Akron, Ohio, was at fault. The events that led to the uncontrollable outage began with the loss of a high voltage transmission line. The company's maintenance crew failed to trim trees low enough to prevent power lines from hitting limbs, which led to short-circuits that caused protective relays to shut down the power line sections.

A key failure involved FE's loss of alarm functions on computer systems in the main control room which monitors power conditions on the grid. The alarm functions are used to alert operators to take action in reducing overload. Since alarms were not working, operators missed readings on computer monitors that would have signaled the need to take emergency action. For over an hour, no one in the FE control room knew that the computer systems were not operating properly.

If the power lines had been detected and acted upon in time, FE could had possibly been able to prevent the final outage by cutting off power temporarily to its own customers. So due to not knowing of the problem, regional regulators and organizations in adjacent states did not receive any warning of the mishap.

Three more transmission lines failed. Two owned by FE and one owned by American Electric Power, headquartered in Ohio as well. Within an hour and a half of the transmission lines going down, by 4:30 PM, most people in Ohio, Michigan, Ontario, New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut were unfortunately without power. The following day, affected areas' power was slowly being restored and people were able to go back to their lives.

The blackout caused major chaos in all different areas. In New York City, about 3,000 fire calls were reported due to people using candles, emergency services responded to 80,000 calls for help, and at least 850 people were arrested within 24 hours, most charged for burglary.

"The blackout that some six million Michiganians experienced was more than just an inconvenience. It disrupted vital services and seriously affected our lives. I am confident that Michigan's recommendations will lead to better safeguards in the near future," said Lark, concluding that, "It is imperative that real remedies are put into place. Anything less leaves Michigan and the nation vulnerable."

The 2003 Blackout, along with the Great Northeast Blackout of 1965, and the New York City Blackout of 1977 have each influenced the electric utility industry to rethink the use of technologies and operating procedures.

More than 50 million people found themselves without electricity August 14, 2003, causing major concern over security issues across the nation. What if somebody was scared of the dark out there?

SATELLITE IMAGES OF ENERGY 20 HOURS BEFORE THE BLACKOUT VS. 7 HOURS AFTER THE POWER OUTAGE

Devastating

INTENSE INFERNO CAUSES MOST DEATH & DAMAGE IN

Beyond the amusement parks and attractions of Hollywood, a lethal fire in the depths of California blazed, burning day and night unrelentingly. It started in the Sequoia National Forest, Monday, July 22, 2003, scattering over thousands of miles.

The majority of the general public had to evacuate their homes and leave their personal possessions behind. The inferno caused several deaths to the Californians and demolished about twenty homes and trailers in the Orange County area. Eleven fire fighters also suffered minor injuries.

The fire fighters commitment to the forest fire was so courageous that they slept in tents, putting themselves in danger in order to help save the residents and communities of California. The officers were supplied with helicopters that were so massive that they could hold more water than an actual airplane. The forest was layered with different types of foams and retardants in hopes to try to help them from the immense blaze; although the helicopters had little effect on the fire everyone's participation seemed to slow it down the fire down.

This fire is one of the most devastating fires in recent decades. It hit four Western states including Nevada and Arizona and was fifteen percent contained in those areas. Smaller brush fires were

The One With the End of An Era

After 10 incredible seasons of being there for us the cast of NBC's FRIENDS called it quits, finishing filming the hit sitcom in January with the final episode airing on Thursday, May 6, 2004.

It is safe to say that Central Perk and its coffee crew will be missed by many teens as well as adults. Jennifer Aniston, Courtney Cox Arquette, Lisa Kudrow, Matt LeBlanc, Matthew Perry, and David Schwimmer became a part of television history playing the famous roles of the spoiled Rachel Green, clean-freak Monica Gellar, zany Phoebe Boufe, lovable Joey Tribiani, sarcastic Chandler Bing, and geeky Ross Gellar.

Could Thursday nights 'Must See TV' BE any more depressing without the six New Yorkers America grew to love? Thankfully, apartments 19 & 20 will never be too far away; the show is going to be in syndication for years to come.

Illustrations courtesy of Chris Ware KRT

Cubs Lose! But Really Now, Who Is To Blame?

Steve
Series.
On October 14, 2003, 40,000 Chicago Cubs fans screamed, tossed beer and yelled profanities at Steve
Bartman, the unfortunate 26 year old that reached for a foul ball in game six of the World Series.
Many people blame Bartman for the Cubs losing this critical game in the series, but I am one of the few that
think that the Cubs lost the series for themselves. If fans take a minute to look at the situation, they would
think otherwise
Bartman, who knocked the ball away from Cubs outfielder Moises Alou, allowed the Florida Marlins to get an
extra out. Many say the Cubs became unnerved, tossing game six while digging a hole for game seven. Instead,
the Cubs became overconfident after winning three games in a row and thought that they had the series in their
pocket.
After the 40,000 fans started screaming at Bartman, everyone saw a man trying to make himself disappear.
Bartman knew what had happened, so he sat down in his chair and began rocking back and forth. He was wearing
radio earphones and, as the fans yelled and screamed at him, he clamped his palms over the earphones, put his head
down and continued to rock back and forth.
Some people say he should have been paying more attention and he should have let Alou catch the ball. Bartman
was just a fan trying to catch a ball to take home as a memento. Bartman is the one person taking the fall for
the Cubs loss of game six, yet there were five or six other Cubs fans reaching for that same ball. Kids with
gloves and older men, all of them reaching, all of them in the front row, and all of them being selfish. These
people stood there and let Bartman take all of the blame when they know that they were trying to catch that same
ball. They were the lucky ones, because they are not the person that most of Chicago now hates.
What ruins this story is that Bartman did not tense up on the mound and hang curve balls for smacking
Mark Prior did and Alex Gonzalez made a key error at shortstop, not Bartman. With bases loaded in a tied
game, Bartman didn't catch a fly ball for the second out and stupidly threw it home, like Sammy Sosa did, missing
the cutoff man and putting runners into scoring position. If Sammy hit the cutoff man, the Cubs were out of
the inning down only four-three. Instead, Sosa gets praise.
The Cubs lost their chance at the World Series, not Bartman. Even if Bartman lost game six for the
Cubs, they had game seven to make up for it. But the Cubs botched that game too. Thus accusing Bartman for
the Cubs demise and that he alone cost the Cubs the pennant in all probability isn't fair. But this is Chicago
and they are the Cubs, and fairness has nothing to do with any of it.
The next day Bartman apologized to all Cubs fans in a statement saying he was, "truly sorry from the bottom
of this Cubs fan's broken heart." Bartman than asked fans to continue to believe that the Cubs could rebound
from this disappointing loss and still earn a spot in the World Series. "I ask that Cub fans everywhere
redirect the negative energy that has been vented toward my family, my friends, and myself into the usual positive
support for our beloved team on their way to being National League champs," Bartman concluded.

Megan Richmond
Rough Draft

"I'm the biggest Cubs fans you'll ever meet, but I do not blame Steve Bartman. Anyone sitting in that seat would have done the same thing. And as far as the curse, there's no such thing."

Anna Rivera, 12 with Cubs Player Moises Alou

Varsity Baseball Player Mark Scheuer, 11

"I love the Cubs, they are the best sports franchise ever and the only baseball team in Chicago. Bartman may be an idiot for reaching for the ball, but losing was not his fault because he was not the one who was pitching that gave up all of the runs."

Four-Alarm Fire Claims Original Crisman School

Sefcik & Wilt

Crisman after the
Winter 2004

Firefighters responded to a call, hoping to save a piece of our city's history, Tuesday, January 27, 2004. The original Crisman School, a 76 year-old building, caught fire at approximately 11 in the morning. Firefighters remained at the scene battling against the four-alarm fire for six hours and were later called back again when the fire rekindled.

It took firefighters from six departments and thousands of gallons of water to put out the fire. The blaze proved to be especially challenging to squelch due to the snow and continued dropping temperature.

The following morning, people drove around the barriers blocking Crisman Road and Portage Avenue to catch a glance of the school. The roof had collapsed and the windows that remained prior to the fire were gone. The building was completely covered in ice with icicles hanging from the trees and the windows, making it both a beautiful and heartbreaking sight.

"It was definitely an eye sore," said math teacher and freshman football coach Jay Hodges, adding that, "A historical mark should be put on the corner to remember the piece of our past."

The school first opened in 1928 as Portage Township's High School, remaining open as the high school until the late 1950's. It briefly closed, reopening later as an elementary building. In December 1976, the building was permanently closed to students. The school district used it as a maintenance facility as well as for storage.

"I wish the building could have been restored to be admired and viewed by the community. It's a shame it had to be destroyed in the matter that it did," remarked science teacher and wrestling coach Larry Tharp.

In 1999, Todd Cole and Jonathon Pitts bought the building hoping to restore and reopen the facility as a condominium complex. Presently, the building is about to be rid of hazardous material, including asbestos, before it can be completely demolished.

"The building needs to totally come down. It is only a matter of time before someone gets hurts," commented Hodges about the dilapidated state of the old school.

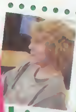
The exterior is expected to be torn down sometimes in June for safety concerns among other issues.

"It's really unfortunate that the building wasn't put to use again before the fire started," stated junior Dustin Foster.

The Portage Community Historical Society hoped to restore the south building of the school with state funding, but no state aid has been allocated for the project. The original north building will most likely be restored without state aid to preserve a part of the city's history for future generations since it was untouched by the fire.

"A park or memorial, or some grass, or something should be put on the corner of Crisman and Portage Avenue so it is not forgotten," concluded Tharp on the issue.

Remains of Crisman School in Spring of 2004



"Underage drinking, besides illegal, is just a stupid thing in which to participate. Alcohol is for people who can't have fun without getting intoxicated. Drinking, more often than not, leads to addiction that yields no benefits for anyone involved.
-Nathan Kellams, 10

TEACHERS SHOULD BE SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE AND TRY TO HELP THEIR STUDENTS INSTEAD OF ENCOURAGING THEM TO DO ILLEGAL DRINKING. THE TEACHER WAS WRONG FOR GIVING ALCOHOL TO THE STUDENTS. SHE SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE RESPONSIBLE.
-CORRINE CASTILLO

UNDERAGE DRINKING PROBLEM

By: Elizabeth A. Sefcik

Minors all across the country engage in consuming alcohol at parties, drinking as if they were doing nothing wrong. Students from Crown Point High School were acting irresponsibly drinking at a teacher's house late Saturday, March 27, 2004.

"I think that underage drinking is pointless and totally irresponsible because not being in control of yourself is never acceptable," commented junior Caitlin Bartz after hearing about the students in Crown Point there were caught drinking.

Janet Wilson, special education teacher, her husband, and their 19 year old son were arrested and charged with recklessly furnishing minors with alcohol at their house in Crown Point early Sunday morning. There were around 50 students gathered outside in the driveway of the home that lead a police officer to raise an eyebrow while on routine patrol.

"If teachers are going to have alcoholic beverages at a party they would be best not to invite students. After all some people are desperate to gain money from civilian lawsuits and it isn't worth the risk for the teacher."

Many students fled on foot from the house as Lake County and Indiana State police arrived. Authorities arrested 18 individuals, mostly minors for underage consumption. The teacher's license is at question due to her actions, and the students involved have been punished.

THE RESTRICTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FROM INDIVIDUALS YOUNGER THAT 21 IS BLATANT INVASION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. SCRIPTURE STATES, 'FOR IT IS NOT THOSE WHO HEAR THE LAW WHO ARE RIGHTEOUS IN GOD'S SIGHT, BUT IT IS THOSE WHO OBEY THE LAW WHO WILL BE DECLARED RIGHTEOUS.' ROMANS 2:13. THE TEACHER SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER THAN ... PARTY WITH A BUNCH OF NARCS.
DAVID LARSON, 11

September 20, 2003

O'BANNON DIES AT 73

Lieutenant Kernan Takes Office

HODGES - Indiana Governor Frank O'Bannon's campaigning was brought to an abrupt halt September 8, 2003, due to a massive stroke that in a few short days ended not only his career, but also his life.

O'Bannon, 73, was admitted to a Chicago hospital where he immediately underwent surgery in hopes of saving his life. Unfortunately, over the next five days, O'Bannon's condition remained critical and only worsened as doctors began to notice signs of swelling in the Governor's brain. Devastatingly, the Governor passed away on the evening of Saturday, September 13, 2003.

A traditional funeral service for O'Bannon took place on the September 19th and another service took place the following day in Corydon, Indiana, the late Governor's hometown, also the original state capital of Indiana.

Prior to the services, a memorial book for O'Bannon was placed in the Statehouse, where the public was invited to sign and express their condolences for the Governor and his loved ones. A portrait and significant articles from O'Bannon's political career were also put on display with the memorial book.

Once the services had come to a close O'Bannon's Lieutenant Governor, Joseph Kernan, was officially sworn into office. For the past two years, Kernan has been O'Bannon's point man on many different aspects and on numerous issues that O'Bannon felt strongly about.

Kernan now has a full plate in front of him and big shoes to fill. Due to O'Bannon's sudden and tragic death, Kernan will now have to step up and take over where O'Bannon so unfortunately left off. This will definitely not be an easy task to accomplish, but it has been said by many that Kernan has never been a man to sit along the sidelines, but he has always been right there in the game.

As Kernan's first act as Indiana's new Governor, he declared a statewide day of remembrance out of admiration and respect, but also out of pure compassion for his predecessor and O'Bannon's family.

O'Bannon was widely loved and respected, not only by the state of Indiana, but many others across the country. The country have undoubtedly suffered a tremendous loss and all will sorely miss him. Though he has physically passed away, the memory of Frank O'Bannon will remain alive for years to come through the people he has touched. He may be gone in body, but he will remain in the hearts and memories of those who will never forget him.

MERRILLVILLE BANS COLORS

Pink & Black Suggestive of Gangs

The administration at Merrillville High School ... suggested that the color ... banned ... media is being ... for the ...

REDDEN - From baggy clothing, to sideways hats, the color pink has now been added to a growing list of paraphernalia that can now be considered gang related. On March 30th 2004, Merrillville High School's administration made an announcement asking all students not to wear the color pink, because of its new affiliation with gangs. The announcement was merely a request not a demand. No students have been or will be punished for violating the request.

"This has not really effected me personally, because pink is not really my color, but no one is really upset by the administration asking not to wear pink. Anyhow the media made it seem much worse than it was," said Merrillville junior Eric Guajardo.

This event raised many issues concerning clothing that have been in question in the recent past at Portage High School, such as uniforms. Many students feel that wearing a uniform takes away the freedom of expressing themselves. It is also another opinion shared by many that wearing a uniform would not really prevent people from finding a way to demonstrate that they are in a gang.

"Uniforms will not prevent gang symbols because a gang can have a symbol as minor as a certain hairstyle, so getting uniforms will only reduce the ability of people having a color related symbol," freshman Marissa Carrillo.

The school has a policy on wearing gang related items, if someone is caught wearing something the person is asked to change. Gangs are not considered a big problem at Portage.

"I feel gangs are not really an issue around here. Besides this school's dress code is strict enough so we are not wearing anything gang related, and if we do there are consequences," said sophomore Nathan Smith, adding, "I just do not think uniforms are necessary here."

In Merrillville, it started when the faculty at the school noticed an overwhelming amount of students wearing pink, not only on clothing but also on things such as shoelaces and other accessories where the color had not normally been before. The administration decided to take action and politely request no pink, specifically pink shirts under black shirts. The school decided this would help prevent a problem before it truly started.

"I think the school did the right thing, instead of making it a demand they only asked. I do not feel that it is taking away any freedom of choosing what to wear because no students were punished," said senior Joshua Guiderelli. "I also think it was a good idea because if pink really is gang related it should not be brought into school," Guiderelli concluded.

Students at Portage will not be sporting uniforms down the halls any time soon, but the idea has been raised before and most certainly will be discussed again. Merrillville High School will remain a pink free zone until further notice.

FIELD House Proposal

THIS YEAR THE IDEA WAS PROPOSED TO THE SCHOOL BOARD ABOUT EXPANDING THE HIGH SCHOOL WITHIN THE NEXT DECADE. THE ADDITION TO THE SCHOOL WOULD BE BETWEEN THE EAST AND WEST BUILDINGS, JOINING THEM TOGETHER. THE TENNIS COURTS WOULD BE MOVED NORTH OF THE HIGH SCHOOL AND OTHER CHANGES WILL HAVE TO BE PERFORMED.

"I THINK IT IS A WONDERFUL PROPOSAL, AND I DESPERATELY HOPE THAT IT HAPPENS," COMMENTED ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL LORI PAVELL.

THIS DEVELOPMENT WILL INCLUDE CONSTRUCTING A 17,500 SQUARE-FOOT MEDIA CENTER, A 57,000 SQUARE-FOOT GYM FACILITY, AND A NEW ARTS CENTER FOR THE ORCHESTRA, BAND, AND CHOIR ALONG WITH SMALLER REHEARSAL ROOMS. THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION BUILDING WOULD INCLUDE AN INDOOR TRACK, BASKETBALL COURT, WEIGHT ROOM, FITNESS ROOM, LOCKER ROOMS, AND ATHLETIC OFFICES. THIS STRUCTURE WILL TOTAL ABOUT 127,000 SQUARE FEET.

"THE FIELD HOUSE PROPOSAL IS A WONDERFUL IDEA. I THINK IT IS A STRONG BENEFIT FOR THE SCHOOL AND ATHLETIC TEAMS. THE SCHOOL NEEDS SOMETHING NEW FOR THE ATHLETES. WHEN YOU WALK INTO THE WEIGHT ROOM IT DOESN'T LOOK ENTIRELY SAFE AND BUILDING A COMPLETELY NEW BUILDING FOR THE ATHLETES IS A GOOD IDEA," STATED JOHN ILES, TEACHER AND COACH.

THE FIELD HOUSE WILL BE BENEFICIAL TO THE STUDENTS AT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL, ALONG WITH THE COMMUNITY. ATHLETIC EVENTS SUCH AS FOOTBALL WILL HAVE THE OPTION OF BEING PLAYED OUTSIDE, OR INDOORS. THE FIELD HOUSE COULD ALSO PROVIDE MUCH MORE ROOM FOR THE ATHLETES.

"IT ALSO PROVIDES MORE ROOM FOR THE GYMNASTICS TO MOVE AROUND AND IT ALLOWS THE TRACK TEAM TO GET OUT OF THE HALLWAYS IN WEST WHEN THEY RUN. THE IDEA FOR CONNECTING THE TWO MEDIA CENTERS TOGETHER IS AN OPTION TO HAVE MORE CLASSROOMS FOR MORE TEACHERS, OFFERING MORE TEACHERS AND MAYBE MORE SUBJECTS TO BE TAUGHT," STATES ILES.

NOT ONLY WOULD IT BE ADVANTAGEOUS FOR ATHLETES OF THE SCHOOL, BUT ALSO FOR THOSE THAT UTILIZE THE MEDIA CENTER, THE FINE ART DEPARTMENTS, AND ROTC PROGRAMS.

"COMBING THE MEDIA CENTERS IS SOMETHING THAT WILL HELP ALL THE STUDENTS BRINGING THE TECHNOLOGY UP IN THE SCHOOL. ROTC WILL ALSO GREATLY BENEFIT FROM THE PENDING NEW ADDITION. IT WILL HELP THE FINE ARTS DEPARTMENTS UNITE IN ONE PARTICULAR AREA," REMARKED ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, BOB MATTIX, ADDING THAT, "THE NEW ADDITION WOULD DEFINITELY HELP OUR ATHLETIC TEAMS. THE FIELD HOUSE COULD POTENTIALLY BE VERY BENEFICIAL TO THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, AND THE FITNESS PROGRAMS."

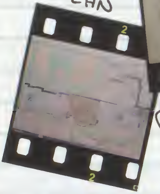
THE FIELD HOUSE PROPOSAL IS ALSO PROVIDING THE COMMUNITY FOR SOMEWHERE TO GO AND WORK OUT.

"I HAVE HOPES THAT THE FACILITY WILL BRING THE COMMUNITY INTO THE SCHOOL AGAIN BY ALLOWING THE PUBLIC ACCESS, PERMITTING PEOPLE TO UTILIZE THE TRACK AND OTHER ASPECTS TO THE PROJECT'S EDITIONS. OVERALL, IT PROMISES TO BE A VALUABLE ADDITION TO EDUCATION AND ATHLETICS," REMARKED MATTIX.

MANY HAVE THEIR DOUBTS ABOUT THE EXPENSE OF THE PROJECT, BUT MANY OTHERS ARE EXCITED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES IN THE FUTURE.

OUTSIDE VIEW

SITE PLAN



FLOOR PLAN

TRAGEDY CLAIMS TEENAGE LIFE

Tori Allison Rhein, a 13-year old student at Fegely Middle School, had her life stolen the careless morning of October 25, 2003. A silver sedan quickly fled the scene after striking Rhein, who was walking south down Airport Road with a close friend. The driver was 22-year-old Daniel Simms, who later was tested, confirming that he had been driving under the influence of alcohol.

Those who knew Tori thought the world of her. Even though she was young, she was able to touch many lives around her.

"Tori and I were really close, we did everything together. She was always there for me and stuck up for anyone who needed help," said her younger cousin Justin Rhein. Adding somberly, "I know, even though she's not here with me anymore, she will still be looking after me. .like she always did."

The funeral ceremony was held at Engel Funeral Home, which was packed with people both young and old, coming to pay their last respects. By looking at the long line extending from the funeral home, it was indeed clear that Rhein was loved by many. It was obvious from the many reactions and responses after the Rhein's death that many lives will be forever changed in light of the tragedy.

"The whole place was full of people, all crying, all comforting, all being there for one another. I had no idea that so many people even knew Tori, let alone cared for her that much. It was comforting to see so many people who also loved her. It was really sad to see all those young kids crying," said Rhein's mother, Valerie Rhein.

Throughout the funeral home were tons upon tons of flowers, sent by friends and loved ones from everyplace. Around the casket were pictures of Rhein and her family, set up as a reminder of the many good times before this tragic one. Also surrounding the funeral home were letters from friends and close family members, expressing their wishes and last good-byes before she was put to rest.

"It was hard to decide what I wanted to say to Tori. It would be the last thing I would ever be able to tell her. There were so many emotions running through me I didn't even know where to begin. As soon as I started writing to her it all began to hit me, it was too hard," said Rhein's older cousin Erik Rhein.

Evidence of all of the hurting people, Rhein's closest friend even made a website for her entitled "RIP Tori." This website, from the day of the heartbreaking experience to only October 31, 2003, had an *overwhelming number of* visitors, ranging from Rhein's hometown all the way to Canada. At this website visitors were able to leave messages to either the family of the girl or even talk to her through the computer. People who had never even met Rhein visited the site to say a few things to the family or just talk to her.

"A lot of people who wrote comments wanted to give their condolences to all of the family. Some of the things people were saying about Tori were really touching and meant so much. It was comforting to see that she had a lot of good friends and many people who just generally cared for her," said Rhein's father, Anthony Rhein. The death of Rhein has impacted many, but all that will be remembered is precious memories.

Swimming to Success

Sophomore Lauren Ruzga was recently rewarded for her swimming talents in a unique and unusual way. She was not given a trophy or plaque, but instead she was recognized by the Indiana High School Athletic Association's (IHSAA) series of posters featuring her picture.

"I have been swimming since I was seven and this is one of my favorite rewards I have ever received," Ruzga admits.

Earlier this year girls' swimming Coach Melanie Peda, nominated Ruzga to go down to Indianapolis, Indiana, where she competed for the chance to be featured in a series of posters. Ruzga was the only swimmer from Portage High School to be chosen to compete for this honor.

"I think she is a good example both in and out of the pool. She is a strong leader that leads by example," Peda says, discussing her reasons for choosing Ruzga out of the many other talented swimmers on her team.

The poster series represents healthy living in the form of several different sports, sponsored by the IHSAA and Criminal Justice Association. The IHSAA is a voluntary organization, which provides athletics for the secondary schools of Indiana. Where as, the National Criminal Justice Association exists to prevent and reduce criminal and delinquent behavior on victims.

"When first asked to participate in this competition, I was unsure of what the IHSAA or the Criminal Justice Associations were. After I found out more about these organizations I was proud to be picked," Lauren explains.

Ruzga beat out the many other competitors from all around Indiana without any special training regiments.

"I felt very honored to represent Portage," Ruzga says as she thinks back to the competition.

By uniting IHSAA and Criminal Justice Association, they hope to create a safer atmosphere for Portage's youth by distributing these antidrug/antigambling posters throughout Portage to inspire a healthy life-style for all.

New Equipment Makes Weight

Thanks to the athletic boosters and several school board members, the school now has a new weight room! The athletes have been given better equipment on which to train during the off-season. Due to safety issues with the old equipment, the new machines ensure a much safer environment for all athletes. Some of the old weights were given to Fegely and Willowcreek middle-schools, some to the freshmen building, and to the Police and Fire Departments. The total cost for all the equipment was approximately $62,000, and it will take around four years to payoff.

Erik Brink, 11

Athanasia Papachronis, 11
Amy [illegible]

1. Junior Girls Powder Puff Football Game @ WArpath September 1[illegible], 2003

2. Cast of M*A*S*H On Stage, Act II November 21, 2003 East Auditorium

3. Justin Olson, 12 Margaret Sabin, 12 Homecoming Pep Rally Mock Court September 18, 2003

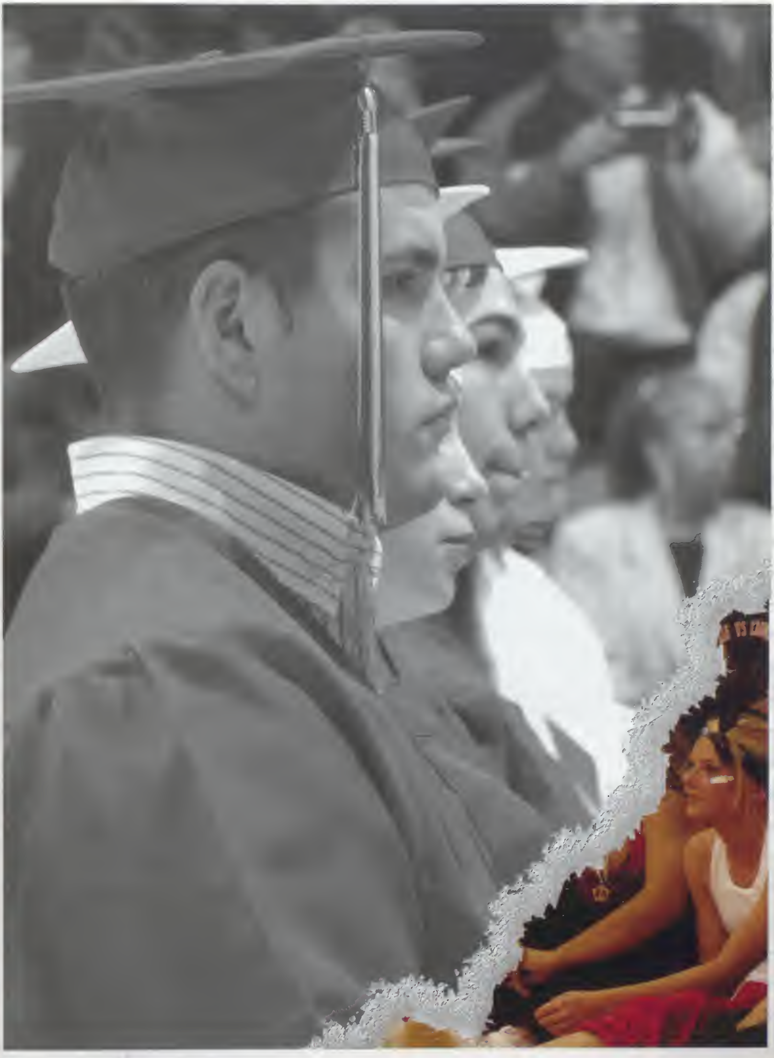
4. Senior Boys as Bitchin Ballerinas @ the Variety Show April 3, 2004

There are many activities that the whole student body and faculty come together for.

In recognizing that some events are just out of the ordinary, extra excitement is natural. Schedules are formed and plans are arranged far in advance that unite a large group of people in order to celebrate. Everyday has its moments, but the lasting memories are the experiences that shape high school differently for everyone.

A football player has a completely different perspective of homecoming week than that of anyone else. The experience obviously differs from player to player. From the one starting to the one cheering on the sidelines both are unique from that of a mere spectator rooting for the home team. Yet without the fans the football players would not have the same experience, and without the players it would be silly for anyone to even be in the stands. The diversity of each person fashions the moment. Everyone is distinct and each encounter remains just as distinctive as the individual. The students come together and create an experience for one another, each taking away something different and contributing in their own way.

In the crazy chaos of everyday life, that has a tendency to catch up to everyone, it is important to take the time to stop and make a ***NOTE TO SELF*** with enjoying the present, remembering that everyone's notes are just as unique as the person themselves.



Loaded down with the entire football team, a semi-truck rolls down Central Ave during the parade The boys wave and shout to friends, family fans line up on the curbs

With loads of excitement cheering on the rest of the fans in the stands senior Bob Gaffin screams during the game against the Bulldogs. Many of the students truly are Superfans to the team

What was your favorite part of this year's homecoming?

"Dancing at the pep rally for the first time was a rush; I can't wait until next year!"

Hilary Lajcin, 9

"Winning the game I being excited with my friends afterwards was an absolute blast."

Robert Crecelius, 11

"The dance after the game was where all the super fun was at."

Genevieve Nimeth, 11

Story By: Ashley Jalovecky

Junior Girls Whamp Seniors AGAIN

Whether it be the warm air turning cold and crisp, or the green leaves turning shades of red, yellow, and orange the one thing all Portage High School students think of when they think of fall is football Along with football comes the ever so popular fall homecoming.

With homecoming comes a huge amount of dedication the parade, the pep rally, and spirit week. This is the best time for students to show their true school spirit.

"I love being involved with the homecoming parade because it makes me feel like my involvement is important and makes people smile," states sophomore Sarah Gomez

Without the involvement from students like Sarah none of these school activities would've been possible. The junior class alone was a huge part in putting the pep rally together. They were also in charge of spirit week and had their own float in the parade

Each class does as much work as they can to make their homecoming worth while. A very big part of homecoming for the junior and senior girls is the powderpuff game. This fund-raiser helped us raise money for a little girl that needed a lung and heart transplant. All together the powderpuff game helped raise $2,207.10; they gave half to the little girl and half to the Lupus Foundation of Northwest Indiana. The junior girls victoriously won by a score of 53-13.

The day before the big game the pep rally was held to lift spirits and pump up all of the student body. The cutest baby contest was won by senior, Artimeo Del Real and the Mockery Homecoming court was won by seniors, Margaret Sabin and Justin Olson. As entertainment the cheerleaders stunted and cheered while the pompons danced. Every year since a couple of years ago the senior girls have a battle dance which included a mix of different rap songs.

The homecoming court raced their way to a kiddie pool filled with pudding. It was a competition to see who could find the crown before it was announced at the game Stickiness and fun was the biggest factor

Helmets off to another victory! Senior Joseph Monteleone and fellow football players sing Go Portage High school as a way of praising another well played game

For the second year the powderpuff game was held during spirit week Seniors Christopher Brock and Jacob Parker give field instructions to a couple of their players at a time-out

After all of the fun came the serious part of home-coming. The big game between the Portage Indians and the Crown Point Bulldogs. There was no more messing around once the teams reached the field. Even with the chilling cold the Indians still managed to show the Bulldogs who their masters were.

Still holding the dog's by their chains at half time the Homecoming queen was announced as senior Crystal Delgado screamed with excitement. Mr Football, Steve Vaught joined his queen for the praise of the crowd and hurried back out to win the 2004 Homecoming game by a score of 56 to zip!

Filled with excitement the cheerleaders chanted with the crowd for the victory over the bulldogs. Things didn't seem like they could get any better This year s homecoming seemed to be a huge success for the community along with the student body and will set a precedent for years to come.

In anticipation, the senior girls wait on the sidelines for their big debut. Their dance consisted of white and [illegible] groups battling it out in a dance competition to a mix of a Chinggy song.

After a long speech, JV and varsity players huddled up together ending up in a dogpile on the gym floor. Laughter and excitement from the players and fans filled the air.

Shamefully shutting out the Bulldogs, junior Jacob Huston waits patiently for the ball to be hiked The Indians commanded the lead the entire game with the competition dragging far behind

Ready to rumble: the junior and senior girls huddle around before the Powderpuff game getting last minute instructions and rules The juniors won by a large margin

In a mockery of the homecoming court, senior Nicholas Williams struts his stuff as the crowd roars in laughter Although not the winner of the comical competition, he enjoyed being part of the pep rally fun.

On her way to the pound junior Teri Harrington is dragged away by two dogcatchers juniors David Hinojosa and Amanda Morales In the parade the junior class reenacted the taming of the Bulldogs

As a homecoming nominee senior Allison Satt[illegible]r is escorted by her father onto the football field for the big moment Her mother was a previous homecoming winner when she was in high school

Break time is always fun and games for sophomore Robert Liesch and his fellow castmembers. A quick breather is much needed and well deserved before getting right back to dress rehearsal. During Liesch's theatrical debute he played Lt. Henry Blake. He was able to share the stage with older brother senior Jacob Liesch.

As the cast gathers around a storage trunk they discover a dead raccoon that someone thought would be a funny prank. While the action on stage draws the audience's attention, one cannot help but be impressed with the extensive set design. Daniel Irizarry, William Messer, Joshua Mitchell, Eric Ruiz, and Craig Vargas were to praise for their creative masterpiece.

Drama Celebrates, Pays Tribute to Veterans

-November 21, 2004

This past fall the theater department performed the well-known play M*A*S*H. Most people, such as parents, know M*A*S*H from its popular television series which lasted 251 episodes. Students were far less familiar with the television show and play, but eager to see it when it was announced the production. The television series is one of the longest running television series still on TV since the mid to late 70's. The television series and the play are both based on the academy award-winning movie M*A*S*H.

M*A*S*H is based on the Korean War, which has been called our country's "Forgotten War." It was the first war in history where the United Nations joined forces to oppose a common threat. M*A*S*H not only sets a positive light on a tragic war, but also acts as a reminder of the past. Thanks to M*A*S*H, the Korean War can never be ignored and the more than 33,500 men and women who gave their lives for freedom, will never be forgotten.

M*A*S*H stands for Mobile*Army*Surgical*Hospital which was on the front lines during the Korean War. (continued on following page.)

Backstage in the green room, seniors Andria Najar and Susan Doane relax in between scenes. Many times the cast has to run around and change costumes, but the girls did not have to so they took the time to socalize with the rest of the actors as they dressed.

Gathered around senior Nicholas Williams, several Korean women listen to what his character Ho Jon has to teach about the Americans. Seniors Elise Evans, Mary Dranchak, along with juniors Heather Hufgard, Rochelle Anderson, and sophomore Sara Mustafa played the roles of the Korean women helping out at the medical hospital.

Disgusted, senior Jacob [illegible]iesch, Captain Frank Burns, yells at junior Elizabeth Koonce, Major Margaret Houlihan. Koonce's initial on stage performance was considered a major role and she definitely lived up to her own and others expectations of the part.

Were you nervous?

"I was only nervous for the first line I said as Mitzi. Once that's out, it's just fun!"

Dustin Fo[illegible], 11

On the phone, General Hammond, played by sophomore Alexander Crist, reports about the war to Private Boone, played by senior Eric Scheub. Getting involved in the theater is a great way to make new friends. Scheub and Crist became friends after acting together.

Many times the crew goes overlooked, even though it takes hours of training and lots of practice to properly operate the technical equipment. Sophomore Kim Hickman is one of two young women that manned the spotlights for M*A*S*H, fellow sophomore Cristen Coffey was in charge of the other. Everyone in the crew works together to make the performance complete.

With a large portion of the cast on stage, a critical scene unfolds in the male sleeping quarters of the camp. Senior Aaron O'Reilly portrayed Father John Patrick Mulcahy, junior David Hinojosa played Corporal Radar Reilly, senior Brenden Nasiancino was Duke, junior Dustin Foster acted as Trapper John, with senior Eric Michaels played the roll of Hawkeye. The guys gather together discussing matters of the war and different patients conditions.

Talk about free advertising! Senior Eric Scheub shows off a poster of the then upcoming play M*A*S*H at the Penn vs Portage regional football game. As usual with the productions, the artwork used on the posters and playbills was drawn by drama teacher and musical director Mr. William Bodnar.

With a sign in the background reading, Portage: somewhere in Korea, Leonard Smock shrugs his shoulders, trying to reason with a fellow cast member during a dramatic scene in the mess hall area of the hospitial camp. Smock's played the role of Sergeant Devine, the cook.

Always there when needed the stage crew helps everyone. Senior Meredith Stasik helps junior Stephanie Chaddock with her microphone after a quick costume change from fatigues to formal attire. During the dress rehearsal the cast and crew workout minor snags that pose potential issues for opening night. After rehearsing one last time, the directors go through what thespians call "pickups", or noticeable errors that should be addressed before the first show.

(CONTINUED)

In the play, the main characters are Captain "Hawkeye" Pierce, played by senior Eric Michaels, Captain "Trapper John" McIntyre, played by junior Dustin Foster, and Captain "Duke" Forrest, played by senior newcomer Brenden Nasianceno.

Hawkeye and Duke were transferred to Korea to help soldiers in need of medical care during the Korean war. Before these young men came to Korea, M*A*S*H was nothing but a medical hospital taken too seriously. Things were definitely turned upside down in no time at all. The hospital was assigned a crazy couple of misfits who were very rebellious, but nevertheless were also extremely excellent doctors that cared for their patients.

The entire play is based on a combination of stories, focusing on the main characters and their adventures. Comedy, including satire, is used so there is humor, but everything is still very critically centered around the war and the conflicts that took place from 1950-1953 that more than twenty nations fought side-by-side to overcome.

"Everything took place during the war and the fact that the characters had taken some time out for an occasional football game never took the focus off of the main issue of war," commented Michaels on the seriousness of the play combined with its comical situations, many of which were lead by his entertaining character.

Even though the play M*A*S*H includes many different stories, the main focus were vignettes following Hawkeye and his efforts toward getting Ho-Jon, his house boy, played by rookie senior Nicholas Williams, further educated in an American college.

Friendships were made and some lost, but the realities of war were portrayed with this dramatic comedy. For a good laugh and a touching feel from the past, M*A*S*H is a classic that has and will hold up with the passing of time.

Story By: Ashley A. Jalovecky

HAS ANYONE INVOLVED IN THE PLAY MADE AN IMPACT ON YOUR LIFE?

Mr. Stevens is the greatest guy in the whole world!

Brien Cook, 10

Eric Michaels. I knew he was a good actor but wow he is brilliant and has a wonderful gift. Don't tell him that though. Ha Ha!!

Christine [illegible]zano 12

Up high in the balcony of the auditorium while operating the soundboard, sophomore Eric Ruiz laughs with some of the backstage crew via his hands free walkie talkie. Technology gives the crew the ability to communicate easily when necessary for scenes; moreover, it also serves as a fun way to joke around and goof off.

[illegible] Valerie Lane and Stacy Levack dance to a slow song together. Sometimes girls just need to get away for awhile and dance with their friends.

Dance the Night Away

Story By Ashley A. Jalovecky

With every new school year comes some school's greatest rituals. One ritual that all girls from ninth through twelfth grade love is the ever so popular Winter Formal.

As soon as Thanksgiving hits, so does the thought of dresses, dates, and hair appointments for the winter dance. For the freshmen and sophomores, the winter dance is a type of "prom", but for the juniors and seniors it's just another excuse for getting all dolled up and looking pretty.

Every year the formal is held in the school's commons complete with a disc jockey, seating area with refreshments, and a specific theme for the entire event. This year's theme was "La Belle Noche" or in English, The Beautiful Night.

"This year, I was very impressed with the arrangement of decorations. They looked really organized and were better than last year," stated sophomore Jessica Carrasco.

An archway filled with colors of navy blue and white balloons filled the entrance to the dance floor as a montage of lights filled the commons wall.

"Love was in the air everywhere I looked. There were so many happy couples dancing the night away and just having an all around good time," said junior Ashley Vargas.

Couples or not, the Winter Formal is a great place to let loose and have fun, whether it be with friends or a date, dancing by far is one of the best ways to unwind and have a great time.

What were your plans before the dance?

"I had a horrible night. My date was an hour late, he made me pay for dinner, and drew on me with permanent marker. I'd say my night was GREAT!

Jessica Riffett, 11

"I had a wrestling tournament right before the dance so as soon as I got home I hurried, got my stuff, and got ready with my buddies.

Daniel Zemlik, 11

On the dance floor senior Jade Martinez takes a minute to slow things down and share a moment with her boyfriend, senior Nick Serrano. The floor becomes really squished after awhile and a breather is well needed.

During the dance, sophomores Kristen [illegible] and [illegible] Shewb [illegible] for pictures. They both [illegible] extremely good friends for a number of years.

At the dance, seniors Daniel Toomey, Elizabeth Diltz, and Nicholas Mills strike a pose. You can never go wrong with a pair of sunglasses.

Magic was in the air as sophomores Katherine Batista and Erik Rhein danced the night away. This truly was La Belle Noche for the wonderful couple.

[illegible]NATION CAN BE ONE OF THE PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF A STUDENT'S LIFE. WHAT BETTER GROUP TO FIND SUPPORT THAN FRIENDS AND FAMILY ON THE BIG DAY OF ENTERING THE REAL WORLD.

ROWS AND ROWS OF GRADUATES LISTEN TO THE SPEAKER WHILE WAITING TO RECEIVE THEIR DIPLOMAS. SINCE SHE IS NEAR THE END OF THE ALAPHABET, TABITHA SCHEUSTER, SEATED AT THE BACK, TRIES TO SEE AROUND THE MORTERBOARDS OF FELLOW CLASSMATES WHICH ARE BLOCKING HER VIEW OF THE SPEAKER.

WHAT WERE THE ADVANTAGES OF GRADUATING EARLY?

"IT ENABLED ME TO GET A HEADSTART IN COLLEGE. PLUS, IT GAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO WHAT I WANTED."

-ADAM WELLFOND, 12

"BEING ABLE TO START WORK AND GO TO COLLEGE EARLY WERE ADVANTAGES."

-NICOLE CAMATILLE, 12

MOVING THE TASSEL, WHICH SIGNIFIES THE END OF HIGH SCHOOL, IS AN ACTIVITY ALL STUDENTS DREAM. ODDLY ENOUGH, THERE IS NO HISTORY TO WHAT SIDE TO MOVE THE TASSEL TOWARD. IT IS ONLY CUSTOMARY TO MOVE THE TASSEL AS A REPRESENTATION SYMBOLIC OF THE ACHIEVEMENT.

STUDNETS AND FAMILY ALIKE GET TO 'LET IT ALL OUT' AT THE END OF THE CEREMONY AND TAKE A LITTLE PRIDE IN THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. STUDENTS ARE WARNED THAT MOST FORMS OF JOY ARE ACCEPTABLE EXCEPT THE DREADED THROWING OF THE STUDENT HAT.

Students are made to go up to the front of the auditorium to receive their diploma case because it symbolizes their four years of hard work. However, like at the year end graduation students have to pick up their diplomas after the ceremony

With all their attention on the speaker, Joel Wekluk and Mirdana West sit trying to stay cool in the crowded gymnasium. One of the draw backs to graduating mid-term is the ceremony since it is guaranteed to be held indoors, unlike end of the year graduation

'No More Pencils, No More Books...'

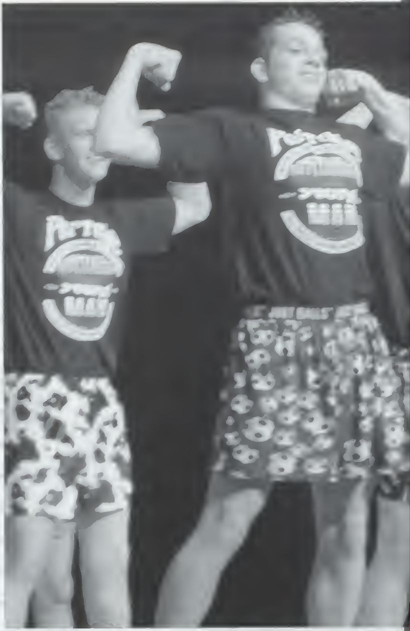
-January 25, 2004

'...No more teacher's dirty looks,' according to Alice Cooper's song "School's Out for the Summer." But in the middle of the winter, school was out for the 89 mid term graduates of the Class of 2004.

The option graduating early still remains at Portage; however, more students are beginning to choose to stay in school longer benefitting themselves. Many seniors decide to graduate in January whether it is to have a jump start in college, earn extra money, sheer laziness, or unexpected pregnancies. For whatever reasons, a special ceremony was held in honor of these graduates for their great accomplishment.

As a tribute to the seniors, the Choraliers sang, "Like an Eagle," and "Go on with the Song in you Heart." The orchestra also accompanied the seniors as they walked out of the gymnasium into the real world. The winter ceremony marked the beginning of a bright future for each graduate despite no warming summer sunshine.

The night of the finals, the guys are cool, calm, and collected before they step on to the stage. Jason Sirokey, Jacob Liesch, and Jason Nelson added to the electric atmosphere of OYM with their personalities and helped maintained that feel of a brotherhood for all the young men.



Movin' Out

February 8, 2004

The annual Outstanding Young Man scholarship program took place this winter featuring the very talented and charismatic boys of the class of 2004. With all having very different personalities and relationships with each other, the atmosphere was one for the OYM record books.

"It was a very memorable experience for me because it is the last time I will do something as part of a group of guys, and I did not have any problems dealing with the different personalities," said Nathan Ziulkowski.

Every year, as with Junior Miss, there is a theme usually incorporated into the program with this year being no different. The theme was Billy Joel and all of his most memorable songs from his era. The theme was picked because Portage's 2003 OYM went to see Billy Joel in concert with past OYM Adam Ritter. It was a general consensus that the music was fitting for the very exciting and anticipated occasion. The songs were fun and got the guys energized and enthuses about the night's events.

"Billy Joel was a good choice, he is talented and an accredited musician that everyone knows. Yes, 'Only The Good Die Young!'" said a very hilarious Nick Williams.

The annual OYM program is an anticipated event for the entire student body, and an excellent excuse to go and see the very handsome bodies of the senior class in their boxers! Most of the guys really had no problem displaying their boxers, and some actually looked forward to it!

"I can't wait! It's time for the whole school to see what they have been missing out on!" said the ever delightful Timothy Hyde.

The program is completely run by the senior class sponsor Joe Stevens, and is acclaimed in the area for being the only educational program for young men in high school. Other schools have even started a program like that of OYM because of the excellent opportunities it provides for young men planning on continuing their education to higher levels beyond high school. Everybody has great respect for all of the hard work Stevens puts into the program, and are very thankful for the local businesses's contributions to the program.

"I would recommend this opportunity to underclassmen because it is a very fun and exciting experience, and you have a great time," said Daniel Paulsen, first runner up.

All of the young men spend hours learning and rehearsing the physical routine. As is customary, the Junior Miss was given the task of choreographing the physical routine with several other senior girls. 2004 Junior Miss Kara Lane takes time during a short water-break to explain part of the dance to friend and contestant Jeremy Gorden.

What Was OYM Like?

"Exhilarating. It was like being born. At first it was dark, then bright, then it got a little cold, and you feel like crying. But you somehow find a way through!"

Danny Martinez, 12

Strong, macho, flirting, and sexy. These are just a few words that describe the charming guys during the physical segment of OYM. With each move they show off their masculine physiques and pearly whites, as well as their different and sometimes loud undergarments which often times reflect their personalities and hobbies to those even paying attention to what is on the shorts.

Dressed to impress for the formal segment, each young man displays his ability to stay poised and in control while answering questions about his future. Glen Batista exemplifies all that this segment requires as he confidently speaks of his hopes and dreams after graduation

While taking on the spotlight, displaying agility, strength, and dexterity Dan Castro and Joseph Arnold do their best to do justice to Only The Good Die Young. Ignoring tense nerves and finding the right groove can be challenging while on stage in ones boxers

The contestants are prepped and primped for the formal segment. Mr Stevens helps Jeremy Leggett prepare along with all the other young men by pinning the boutineers to the tuxedos as they head out of the green room. The senior girls were helpful by making signs for backstage, one read, Xamine Your Zipper!

All alone under the hot spotlight Kevin Coffman stands proud, ready to walk up to the microphone and talk about his goals for the future. Surprising the audience and judges with his certainty, Coffman spoke of his intentions of becoming a minister like his grandfather. Most of the other young men were rather uncertain about their plans.

Did You Like Wearing Boxers In Front Of An Audience?

"I loved it! There's nothing better than being a little seductive for the student body and families."

-Sammie Maletta III, 12

"You have to give the fans what they want. Plus, I'm secure in my masculinity. No ladies, it's not a sock!"

-Erik Scheub, 12

Often times some boys are a bit hesitant about busting a move on stage in their boxers. This year, the boys were not timid and really shook what their mamas gave them. Nicholas Mills and Leonard Smock gave it all they had, making faces and really giving the crowd an enjoyable and memorable show.

(continued)
working with Mr. Stevens and everyone involved," said Daniel Laboy.

Of course, all of the young men involved are winners, the judges named their picks as; fourth runner up Christopher Brock, third runner up Josh Mitchel, second runner up Daniel Martinez, and the outstanding young man was named Bryan Fielder. There were also other numerous awards given such as a good guy award and academic achievement awards.

"I definitely would recommend this program to all of the underclassmen. It was very fun to do, and I would have been disappointed with myself if I wouldn't have done it," said a very genuine Bryan Fielder.

The annual program is one that brings the boys of the current senior class together, and unities them before they all branch off into the real world. The memories and friendships are priceless mementos of this unique opportunity, and will forever remain in your heart even after graduation.

Story By: Emily A. Cliver and Elizabeth A. Sefcik

For most of the young men in the program it was the first time they have ever tried any choreographed dancing. This year's routine included push-ups and sit ups, as usual, along with a tae-kwon-do move or two. Christopher Brock, also in the prom fashion show, air band, and variety show, wowed the judges with his moves and was announced forth runner-up. Terry Easton was ranked in the top of his class and he was recognized with a scholarship for his constant effort in the classroom.

FULL OF A MOTHER'S LOVE MRS FIELDER BEAMS AFTER HER SON BRYAN IS ANNOUNCED PORTAGE'S 2004 OYM

TRADITIONALLY, AFTER THE WINNERS ARE CALLED, THE AUDIENCE IS ALLOWED ON STAGE TO SOCIALIZE WITH THE CONTESTANTS. MRS FIELDER CONGRATULATES HER SON, SMILING UP AT HIM WITH PRIDE WHILE BRYAN CALMLY ANSWERS QUESTIONS FOR A LOCAL NEWSPAPER REPORTER

WITH VERY LITTLE DOWNTIME, JOSHUA MITCHELL AND STEVEN VAUGHT SIT AND REST DURING A PRACTICE. VAUGHT, A THREE SEASON ATHLETE COULD NORMALLY BE FOUND ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD, BASKETBALL COURT, OR TRACK. WHEREAS MITCHELL WAS A STAPLE IN THE STAGE CREW AND HAD NEVER ACTUALLY BEEN ON STAGE BEFORE. HOWEVER HE FINISHED AS THIRD RUNNER-UP IN OYM

AS ERIC MICHAELS LOOKS ON WAITING FOR HIS TURN TO SPEAK DURING THE CASUAL SEGMENT BRENDEN NASCIENTO CONVERSES WITH MR STEVENS. NASCIENTO COMMENTED ON HIS LEAD ROLE IN THE FALL PLAY, AND SHORTLY THERE AFTER MICHAELS DID THE SAME. THE BOYS PREVIOUSLY SHARED THE STAGE IN M*A*S*H

SOME MOMENTS ARE JUST ABOUT TRYING TO MENTALLY PREPARE FOR THE NIGHT'S EVENTS. DANIEL TOOMEY SITS THINKING ABOUT THE QUESTIONS HE WILL HAVE TO ANSWER

Faculty dominates over student team, ...again

-FEBRUARY 27, 2004

Instituted as a way to raise money for prom, the student versus faculty basketball game has become a heated competition between the students and teachers for the past two years

Finishing with a close score of 43 for the students and 45 for the teachers, faculty members pulled ahead once again for the second year in a row.

"My favorite part of playing in the game was being on the court equal with the teachers. I also liked the name on the back of my shirt, turn your head and cough man," explains senior Kevin Coffman.

Senior Justin Ortiz, who has been a member of the basketball team for the past four years, coached the student team. The current girls basketball coach, Renee Turpa coached the faculty team

The pregame started out with senior Emily Cliver singing 'The National Anthem. Soon after the game began, tensions started to rise. Both teams came on strong and continued to play fiercely. Faculty members Robert Kania and Richard Kretz both seemed to give the students a run for their money, their aggression was obvious to the spectators as well as the other players.

As an aid to ease the intensity of the competition at hand, halftime came to the rescue Performing in the show was the pom squad and the J.R.O.T.C drill squad Poms started out by doing their hip-hop routine followed by J.R.O.T.C who ended halftime with their drill. Before the second half of the game, the students received a special surprise when geometry teacher, Amanda Carlson showed everyone "The Worm"

"Performing at the game was really fun Our hip-hop routine is my favorite, I love doing that dance at school because the crowd is always so great," explains sophomore Kali Gibson

The struggle simply grew greater as the second half progressed Both teams fought continuously for the win, with the teachers wanting to maintain their title and students hoping to steal it away.

In the end the game was taken into overtime where the students suffered their unfortunate loss

"Beating the students for the second year felt great. The game this year was down to the wire if it wasn't for Steven Bartos, our ship would have definitely been sunk Our reputations were on the line. Next year we may have to throw the game to give the students a break," explains assistant principal S. Eric Floyd

Story by Jessica Hodges

While taking a quick breather on the bench, some of the faculty team members watch nervously as the game progresses Both years, the teachers have managed to slide by with a win of a few points over the kids

[illegible] the game begins the [illegible] to get ready for the starting line up. Unfortunately the students efforts fell short once again this year.

In the [illegible] of the game, senior [illegible] Scheub takes a quick break to catch his breath. He was named Prom King this year.

Did you enjoy coaching?

"It was a pleasure coaching such a talented group. Even though we were robbed, we managed to push the competition into overtime."

Justin Ortiz '11

After completing a winning play student member Cody Chamnitz high fives fellow teammate senior Michael Steegle to boost up morale in the ongoing battle against the teachers.

In a [illegible] desperation to steal the ball, chemistry teacher Mr. Kanja attempts to swat the ball from student Nick Serrano. For the event, Serrano reverted back to the seventies style.

Sticking with Tradition

February 27, 2004

Up to a few weeks before the winter homecoming students were unaware as to whether or not there would actually be a ceremony. In the past, National Honor Society has sponsored the event but this year that task was taken on by the Thespians. Principals and other faculty members started to worry that having a fall and winter homecoming would be too challenging for the school to financially handle; however no one wanted to see the tradition go to the wayside.

Too many dances wearing people out of money was definitely a factor in the deciding whether to have the dance and ceremony or not. In the end the faculty decided to still have winter homecoming but to not make it as big as it has been in the past. Instead of having two larger homecomings, we have decided to make the winter homecoming smaller and make fall homecoming more elaborate, instead of just the traditional football game and dance. Fall homecoming will turn into a weekend long event, explains principal Mr. Floyd.

For the game the boys basketball team played the Merrillville Pirates and suffered and unfortunate loss by a mere few points during the last few seconds of the game. They continued to stay on top throughout the first half. Once the first half was over the boys headed into the locker room to cool off and regroup their strategies. As the boys left the floor the homecoming nominees anxiously awaited the results of this years homecoming court. Several of the boys on the team were up for the honor of both king and prince.

Before the court was announced, theater director Mr. Stevens gave each girl a bouquet of flowers as they walked out on the floor. After each couple had been lined up on the floor the nominees anxiously awaited the winners to be announced. Six candidates were nominated for each category. The students were nominated by their peers and then later voted on once again.

This years court consisted of Robert Bailey as prince, Trisha Sabocik as princess, Daniel Toomey as king and Elizabeth Dilts as queen.

It was really flattering to even be nominated, and even more so to win. I know people kind of voted for me because this wasn't exactly my thing. If Daniel wasn't king I know I probably would have felt weird in front of so many people but it was really flattering, explains homecoming queen Dilts.

Dilts and Toomey are close friends who have spent numerous hours working diligently together on the Pow Wow. Walking arm and arm came naturally to them after being crowned.

The tradition of winter homecoming court will continue despite the proposition made by the administration to possibly discontinue the ceremony. The administrators planned to increase the fall homecoming festivities letting winter homecoming fall to the wayside, however with enough student body support winter homecoming still remains an event for all to enjoy.

Story By: Jessica Hodges

Photo By: Jessica Hodges

With flowers in hand junior and senior girls nervously wait as the names of the year's homecoming queen and princess titles are revealed. Theater Director Mr. Stevens gave them each a bouquet as they made their way out to the court.

How Did It Feel To Be Nominated?

"I didn't believe it when Mr. Stevens told me. I thought he was playing a joke on me for sure."

Emily Oliver, 12

"I was really excited and happy and I appreciate everyone who nominated me. It was a definitely a surprise."

Trisha Sabocik, 11

Photo By: Jessica Hoxie

Happily accepting the honor of Homecoming Queen and King, Elizabeth Dilts and Daniel Toomey pose for numerous pictures. Dilts and Toomey are both staff members of Pow Wow and have been friends for almost all of their lives

Lined up with their parents, senior basketball players Kyle Autrey and Justin Ortiz stand proud, being recognized for their years of dedication to the team and the game

Photo By: Jessica Hoxie

After being named Junior Class Homecoming Princess, Trisha Sabosik is crowned during the halftime ceremony by president of the Thespians and Technical Director senior Joshua Mitchell. There were five other junior girls nominated for the title this year that competed for the crown which almost did not exist again this school year

Photo By: Jessica Hoxie

Photo By: Jessica Hoxie

The king and prince nominees gather together as the winners are about to be announced. All together twelve boys were nominated by fellow classmates. The decision was made by the entire student body not just by junior and seniors

Cinderellas Strut Their Stuff on Catwalk

February 28, 2004

On Saturday night at 7:30, the high school held a prom fashion show sponsored by His and Hers Bridal Mansion. The show was not an overall success possibly due to the fact it was the first year and because it was held on the weekend instead of on a weekday.

"It was shaky for a first time because not a lot of people came, but I believe next year will be more of a success," explained senior Timothy Hyde.

Mr. Joseph Stevens, and seniors Lisa Niloff and Ashley Biggs were in control of the show. One of the sponsors from His and Hers Bridal read off the names and described the four tuxedos first, and then described the various dresses each girl modeled on the "catwalk".

"I enjoyed getting to walk down and strut my stuff before the girls came out," explained senior Brian Fielder.

The overall profit was a disappointment, but it was a great new experience for the school and for the seniors that participated. Mr. Stevens chose random people to participate but there was a shortage of girls which led to them having to wear at least four dresses.

"I really hope there is another show next year because it was a lot of fun to be all dressed up and pretend like we were models just to entertain the audience," stated senior Meredith Stasik.

Story By: Jennifer Wilt

In preparation for the show, seniors Allison Satler, Kathryn Ireman, and Margaret Sabin check each other's dresses. Each girl had a minimum of four dresses.

After a quick change, senior Anna Crowley struts her stuff down the runway. As a model for the His and Hers Bridal Mansion, the girls had four minutes to change dresses.

While presenting his tux senior Christopher Brock shows off the inside of the jacket. Each of the four guys escorted the girls everytime they entered the stage

While strutting his stuff senior Timothy Hyde shows of his modeling skills backstage before catwalking in front of the audience. Hyde was surely a crowd pleaser that night

Senior Class sponsor Mr. Joseph Stevens talks with the male models before the show, giving them last minute tips. All four guys had experienced being on stage due to OYM

Was The Show a Success?

'Not really, but then again it was the first year we held the prom show. If it's held next year, it will probably be better.'

Diana T[illegible] 12

Patiently awaiting, senior Daniel Toomey rocks on a chair in his most cool collective manner. Toomey also won winter homecoming king

Even though seeming a bit timid senior Danielle Ricker sneaks out a smile aimed towards her family and friends. 'I had so much fun,' stated Ricker

While dancing the Mainlove sophomore Markus Kuta does a risky dance to Christina Aguilera's controversial song "Dirrty". Accompanied by his four back up dancers, Markus did a awesome job recreating the feel of the video

Syncing the Night Away

March 12 2004

The highly anticipated Air Band show that was held on Friday March 12 met its expectations and exceeded them. Many acts in the show were put together last minute this year. The performances range from downright shocking to side splitting funny. It was a great way for students to come together to syncing the night away.

"I enjoyed watching the show, it was a lot of fun this year. There were a good variety of acts. I thought a few were hysterical and a couple really surprised me. It must have taken an intense amount of courage for some of the people to go up there and perform," stated freshman Cassandra Janis.

Aside from the surprises that presented themselves that night Mr. Stevens had one in store as well but at the last minute he decided to omit it from the show. He had planned on dressing in drag and participating in the show himself. This turned out to be a disappointment to all that participated in the show.

None of the performances this year were a disappointment. After last year's box office hit Chicago, the Cell Block Tango was performed at last year's show. The girls were invited to come back this year wowing the audience once again with their impressive dance technique and individual solo parts that they choreographed themselves.

One of the night's favorites was Macho Man performed by a group of upperclassmen boys. This act proved to give everyone a good laugh, and it showed off all six boys' dance moves.

Junior Ashley Jalovecky made an appearance in two acts that night. She did a performance to Aaliyah and mocked the Super Bowl Halftime Show in which sophomore Jessica Carrasco assisted her joke.

Perhaps the most talked about act that night Markus Kuta, who did his interpretation of Christina Aguilera's Dirrty. This act stirred up much controversy with his revealing attire and suggestive dance moves, but Kuta and his back up dancers did a great job.

Dressing as the opposite sex seemed to be in the air that night. Four girls performed the N SYNC routine. The Spice Girls popular song, "If You Wanna Be My Lover" was performed by five guys dressed in drag each dolled up with a full face of makeup.

The Spice Girls act was, without a doubt the funniest act of the night. Everyone was cracking up when we saw the outfits that they were wearing," declared sophomore Camille Lewandowski, adding that "I could hardly recognize that they were even guys and when they were showing off dance moves my cheeks hurt from laughing so hard."

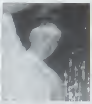
Other acts included Elton John, Milli Vanilli, Jimmy Buffet, Blink 182, Iron Maiden and Kiss. These acts all did a great job performing and entertaining the crowd.

The night's final performance was one to remember as The Village Boys and Kiss joined together to sync the night away in the final farewell to the this years Air Band.

Story By: Alisha Lira and Kimberly Redden

How did you feel before your performance?

"It was weird, I felt really excited and a little nervous. I was extremely scared I might forget something even though I've been dancing for so long."



Kristina Jones, 9

Samantha Lira, 12

"I was so worried to perform in front of everyone because I didn't want to mess up, but I was happy with our performance."

For the second consecutive year juniors Amanda Morales, Ashley Vargas, Maria Belville, Bree Hetrick, senior Samantha Lira, and sophomore Katherine Batista dance to The Cell Block Tango from the Box office hit Chicago. It was clear to everyone who watched why these talented girls were asked back for an encore presentation of their act.

[illegible] bringing [illegible] attention to his [illegible]ing abilities, junior Alek Popplew[illegible] reluctantly climbs out of a large box that was title[illegible] Music [illegible]ocks and Not so tiny dancer

In a one in [illegible] million performance, junior [illegible]sh[illegible] Jalove[illegible]ky an[illegible] sophomore Gabriel Valtierra gave homage to the late Aaliyah. In this sultry performance Jalovecky an[illegible] Valtierra sizzled in a version of the song that would make even Aaliyah satisfied

Definitely ad[illegible]ing spice to the show, junior Kyle Devaney does a routine to the Spice Girl[illegible] Wannabe an[illegible] the E[illegible]ctric Slide. Devaney performe[illegible] with five other members of the swim team

Before the show started, sophomores Joseph Morales, Gabriel Valtierra, Eric Ruiz and senior William Messer spend a few last minutes perfecting their routine to 'Elvira' by the Oak Ridge Boys. The boys tipped their cowboy hats and two stepped their way into all the hearts of country music fans.

In a hilarious performance seniors [illegible] Scheub, Sammie Maletta, Christopher Brock and junior Micham danced and threw their hands in the air to 'Macho Man.' Senior Timothy Hyde also joined these boys in this amusing act that pumped up the crowd.

While strumming to Blink 182 senior Joseph Farrone kept perfect rhythm to give the allusion of playing the drums. Along in the act, were senior William Liesch and sophomore Robert Liesch.

Reenactmenting this year's Super Bowl halftime show, junior Ashley Jalovecky and sophomore Jessica Carrasco gave another performance to remember. Opting for a more school appropriate finish the girls gave the crowd a good laugh.

Along with S[illegible], Scary, Ginger, and Baby Spice sophomore Radley Alcantara dances as the classy Posh Spice. While in his sparkly dress, Radley adds a little bit more attitude to his hilarious dance moves.

HOW DID YOU PREPARE FOR YOUR ACT?

[illegible] four of us [illegible] our dance at That's Dance A[illegible] from our class. [illegible] pretty goofy when we put our costumes on and started putting it all together. After all, it's not every day I dress up like a man.

-Stephanie Tanis, 10

Mr. Stevens convinced us to stay after school the night before the show and taught us the dance. The song wasn't [illegible] but Mr. Stevens got the [illegible] from an old [illegible] ...

-Joey Archuleta, 10

Not letting N'SYNC go "Bye Bye Bye", freshmen Kristina Jones, Melanie Griffin, sophomore Stephanie Tanis and junior Brie Hettrick do their version of the once popular song. All four girls have been doing studio dance throughout their lives.

Obviously enjoying himself, junior Christopher Bolint is "Just a Cheeseburger in Paradise." Not only can Bolint imitate playing the guitar, he actually plays in real life and in the high school band.

VARIETY SHOW '04

Not to be shown up by his older sister, sophomore Joseph Morales shows off his vocal talents. Morales was also a cast member for this year's successful musical Chicago.

Never to be to far away from his sense of humor, junior Andrew Adair lays on the ground and jams on his guitar. Adair has also spent many hours on one of his other hobbies which is film making.

On the stage floor while performing to Michael Jackson's Thriller, several students scare the crowd with a freakishly accurate portrayal of the famous 80's dance number. The group had already done the same act in the fall for a Halloween show, decided to bring it to the school stage.

Several senior boys continue the tradition of the Bitchin Ballerinas. With their arms in all directions, the guys dance to 'The Nutcracker' and jazz it up a bit with 'What is Love'

With sunglasses and tie on, junior Christopher Bolint concentrates on the sweet sounds of his guitar. Bolint has been involved in many of the school s music programs as well as side projects with fellow classmate Andrew Adair and ex student Mike Thurber

Performing for the last time on the Portage High School stage, senior Hilary Manoski sings and plays his guitar for an enthusiastic audience. The variety show give many students a chance at the spotlight

WHAT MENTAL PREPARATION GOES INTO PLAYING THE 'GRIM REAPER' BUT JUNIOR CHRISTOPHER BOLINT IS UP FOR THE CHALLENGE. BOLINT AND FRIENDS DID A LITTLE COMEDY SKETCH BEFORE THEIR BAND PLAYED.

WITH HER BAND 'TONIGHT AT 7' SENIOR STEPHANIE BOTTORFF PERFORMED FOR STUDENT CROWD. BOTTORFF SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE VOCATION COSMETOLOGY COURSE HER SENIOR YEAR.

Striking the 'Charlie's Angels' pose, senior boys add their own take to the Bitchin' Ballerinas. Pop culture jokes have always been a mainstay for the traditional routine

VARIETY SHOW '04

Senior Mitchell Mannino plays a solo on his guitar. Mannino's band, Secret Garden, was known for their interesting view of society and the world

Deep in discussion, senior Kevin Coffman listens to his bandmates. Wearing Iron Maiden shirts, the guys paid tribute to the sounds of Heavy Metal

All about showing the crowd her talent sophomore Alexandra Stewart sings proudly. Stewart was also known for singing the national anthem before many sporting events

Since it is not everyday that one sees senior Daniel Castro dressed in heals, he definitely deserves an extra hand for his dedication. As part of the plot, Castro's transvestite character Mary Sunshine's secret is revealed too late in the show. Even in the playbill Castro's gender is kept secret by listing him as D. Castro. Many students that know him were amused, but most adults in the audience were confuse when Castro first opened his mouth.

From the final number, "All That Jazz", senior Margaret Sabin and junior Amanda Morales had to dance in perfect unison. The audience could tell that a great deal of extra time went into practicing the steps in order to close the show with a real slam bang finish.

The show could not go on without the music, however, this year the orchestra was on the stage where there was interaction with the cast. At several points in the musical the conductor was comically cued by the actors. Due to the cramped stage space to accommodate the musicians, sophomore Natalie Moyado was the lone violinist.

DYM Good Guy and Prom King, just to name a few honors, go to show that senior Erik Scheub was nothing close to the "Mister Cellophane" that he sings about. Scheub's character, Amos Hart, was always being overlooked, but being active in the theater and so many other areas of the school, Scheub was the opposite of his role.

What was most memorable about 'CHICAGO'?

"The final night, when we went to hand Margaret the roses we were supposed to give her a kiss on the cheek, but she kissed me back. I couldn't stop smiling the rest of the night."

Timothy Hyde, 12

Geoffrey Kallimanni, 12

"Being friends with everyone and getting to know people was one of the most fun filled things I've done all senior year."

Keeping It All In The Region

-April 24, 2004

This year's musical has been like no other for many reasons. First and foremost, it almost didn't happen. Mr. Joe Stevens put in one of over 500 applications to run this show. Stevens wanted to do this musical, but he did however have a backup, just in case. The students were told that 'Smokey Joe's Café' would be the musical this year, but only days before holiday break it was announced that 'Chicago' was coming to Portage High School.

This year's musical was also different because it did not have a typical show run. Because of the hype for the show and the potential of the cast, Stevens suggested that they should add a performance to the already three night run. It was very clear that this was a good call on his part. The audience for each show was very energetic and very respectful to the cast.

"I would always like to see a capacity house for each performance, but it is important to remember that even a small audience deserves a great show. I think we gave them that," stated Mr. William Bodnar.

"I think that the musical went really well. People will be talking about this show for years to come." Said senior Elise Evans. Most people would have to agree that the musical went better than expected. There were rumors up to opening night that the actors didn't know their lines and that the dancers didn't know their steps. On opening night everyone who believed these rumors were proven wrong.

"The musical went over much better than I had anticipated. We really showed everyone that we could put on a great show," stated senior Holly Callahan.

"'Chicago' is a bitter satire that never gets old. The success of the motion picture made many people aware of something that theater fans have known for years and that is that 'Chicago' is an incredibly entertaining vehicle," explained Bodnar.

One could argue that there has never been a better production done on the Portage High School stage, and one may be right. From the enthusiasm of the cast to the original and entertaining choreography, it was clear to all that this was a once in a lifetime show. It makes one think that the show will be difficult to top in the coming seasons. It is time to sit back and just wait and see what Mr. Stevens and Mr. Bodnar have in store for next year.

Story By: Megan M. Richmond

The crew is critical to 'CHICAGO'. Freshman Kaitlin Ellis helps junior Steven Lehmann adjust his microphone just before he goes out on stage to reenact the murder scene. Lehmann, as Fred Casely, died on stage twice nightly, once during the opening number and then again in the court scene.

Several of the dancers line up and practice the curtain call. These girls were selected for the role of Mr. Billy Flynn's entourage partly due to their similar height. Mr. William Bodnar, by casting so meticulously, achieved the regimented look he desired.

In one of the main dance numbers, junior Amanda Via, sophomore Kali Gibson senior Sammy Lira, and sophomore Jessicsa Bolint dance around Senior Danny Martinez to make the number a huge success

The many members of the jury were represented by junior Dustin Foster, as well as the role of the police officer who investigated the crime

The character of Mama was greatly portrayed by senior Emily Cliver, who captured the true essecense of the personality and actions of her character

WHY DID YOU PARTICIPATE?

"I absolutely love theater. It was definitely a must for me... I love the group of kids we worked with this year."
Trish Sabocik, 11

"I've always wanted to and when I knew it was 'Chicago', I was like oh ya bring it on baby!"
Christine Lozano, 12

"The greatest part of being in it is seeing how everything comes together and we have a great production."
Jana Zervos, 11

While posing along the edged of the stage after the intermission junior, Amanda Morales, belts out "I Know A Girl", while refelcting upon the actions of her co-star Roxy Heart

As the crime scene was being investigated the reports quickly took notes and photographs during the act titled "We both reached for the gun

With a noose in hand, senior Eric Michaels speaks directly to the audience telling of the first woman ever hung in Cook County history. Michaels' character was a newsreel announcer on the radio that helped narrate and introduce each number.

WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE?

"If I could change one thing about the musical I would put more guys in the pit. We never have enough guys tryout."

CARLEY SHAFFER, 12

"I wish the conductor stand I was using would have been tighter. It kept flipping over, so the music went flying everywhere."

MR. AARON RIEGLE, CHOIR

"If I could change one thing it would have to had been the clothing. Some of it was very provocative and revealing."

DEREK SHELTON, 12

By far one of the most entertaining numbers of the show, seniors Margaret Sabin and Daniel Martinez sing as they perform a ventriloquist act. As with number in "CHICAGO," the dancers enriched the lead singers' vocal performance with their visual addition.

Pantomime was often used rather than props. Senior Jade Martinez and sophomore Alexandra Stewart play a game of poker without using cards as they try to swindle the other conniving murderess mistresses. Martinez pantomimed smoked a cigarette and Stewart slyly pulled cards out of her stocking in an attempt to win.

[illegible] by several male dancers, sophomore Stephanie Tanis shines high. Tanis, like the entire cast, was dressed scandalously in all black with only slight accents of red. The costuming was very risque, but to fit the vaudeville acts such skimpy attire was necessary

The show could not go on without the crew and student directors. From the balcony, those normally behind the scenes lean over the railing, showing their faces for a quick picture before going back to work

With her eyes closed junior Brittany Banic patiently awaits the crew to finish applying her eye make up. The stage crew consists of students working on make-up, wardrobe, lights, sound, props and curtain duty

In step with one another freshmen Kristine Jones and Ashley Sosa and junior Brie Hettrick snap their fingers sexily to spice up the number. Hettrick, one of the choreographers, directed the other dancers and taught them each routine

Before the garter ceremony, seniors Nicole McDonald and Terry Krajefska dance to a salsa song. McDonald also danced with some of her teammates on the softball team.

Students took time out of their night to do a little dancing. Sophomore Rachel Pekar and senior Jagdeep Chahal spend some quality time together after their dinner.

After a long day of helping some friends with their prom preparations, sophomore Bradley Dugger and junior Sharon Gaul dance along side some friends before the garter ceremony. The event was short, sweet and to the point.

With her unique polka dotted dress, senior Jeannette C[illegible]jniczek dances along with senior Nicholas Williams. Various types of music were played this year such as country and techno.

Every year the boys of the senior class get together posing for a picture for the last time. Showing off their tuxes the guys celebrate year's of friendship with smiles of accomplishment.

WHERE'D YOU GO 5-8-04?

"I didn't go anywhere the day after prom, because unfortunately I had to go to work."

MICHAEL SMITH, 11

"Medieval Times, it was my first time there, and it was an incredible show. It was definitely worth 60 dollars!."

RYAN TRUNK, 10

"Six Flags. I had a great time, but I almost got sick riding the American Eagle backwards two times."

DANIEL CASTRO, 12

Towards the end of the night seniors Tara Cooper and Jacob Liesch enjoy some time alone. Both danced along to the song 'Summer Lovin' from the movie Grease

Definitely 'A Night To Remember'

-MAY 7, 2004

Prom is one of the most anticipated moments of the school year, not only for seniors, but for the rest of the students in the school. Usually looked at as one of the "greatest moments you'll have in high school." Hence this year's title, 'I've had the time of my life.'

"I think that the title of prom really fit the event. It was so much to be with all of my friends and my boyfriend for the night." Senior Kelly Guba stated.

The doors opened at 5:30 and closed at midnight. Pictures with dates and friends were taken throughout the evening and Spasoff photography provided amusing backgrounds for the couples.

"I really enjoyed the variety of backgrounds they had to choose from, they were tropical and that made them more fun." Junior Jennifer Jacobs addressed.

Not only girls but guys also got ready for prom weeks in advance.

"During spring break, I went out to find a dress and shoe shopping. I started getting ready for prom pretty early just when the dresses came out." Senior Tiffany Mills stated.

Some students spend their hard earned money on prom, while others get help from their parents. A lot of time and consideration goes into the preparations of the event. The PHS prom committee set up a program and asked others to donate prom dresses from the previous years for students who can not attend the event.

"Every girl dreams of two things from the time she's about four years old. Her high school prom and her wedding. Every student regardless of his or her family's financial situation should be able to attend prom. Girls dresses are by far the most expensive part, so I'm glad I could be a part of this project, which has hopefully helped out some of our young ladies." Committee director Andrea Metzinger addressed.

Prom was held at the Porter County Expo Center.

Decorations filled the room with a Hawaiian theme that lit up the building. The Prom Committee spent months preparing for the event.

"I thought the Expo Center was a great facility. The only thing I wished was different was that the dance floor was bigger." Junior Taire Parker stated.

Both facility and students alike took time out of their evenings to dance.

"I had a blast dancing with my friends. The music was all right, I just wish they would have played more of a variety." Senior Amanda Jarosak stated.

The infamous garter ceremony took place towards the end of the night. Although students had mixed feelings about it.

"I couldn't believe that they stopped everyone from dancing for that. It was short and I was surprised." Sophomore Kelly Schoon said.

At the end of the night students were given a picture frame to remember the occasion.

"The gift was a nice gesture, but I think the frames should have been a bit smaller." Sophomore Christopher Hoover stated.

After prom, students went out and took part in many different entertaining activities. Others just went home and hung around with their dates and additional friends until it was time to finally call it a night.

"Dave (Staples), Amy (Samplawski), and I just went over to my house and camped out." Junior, Kristopher Enstrom explained, "We had a good old time hanging out amongst ourselves."

Whether a lot of time was spent going into this year's prom or accessories were borrowed from a friend on the latest last minute notice, everyone seemed to have had a great time throughout the entirety of the night. This prom will definitely be a hard theme to live up to in the future because, of course, everyone did, undeniably, have "The time of their lives!"

Story By: Kelley K. Yudt and Teri L. Harrington

Attitude was definitely not in short supply at prom. Junior Ronald Waters strikes a pose with his date as they enter into the Expo Center.

Long term relationships are not a surprise in high school but having fun was the most important priority for senior Emily Safstrom enjoys a slow dance with junior Milton Rivera

Soon after the meal the microphone was handed over to junior Stephanie Craddock She shouted out as loud as she possibly could in her greatest attempt to pump up the crowd out on the dance floor before the night was called to end

Surrounded by a crowd of girls senior, Jeremy Liggett celebrates with his closest friends Smiles lit up the room along with the many decorations supplied by the Junior Class

As the night passes by in a flash seniors Kristin Coffman and Erin Hall enjoy a dance along with senior Stephanie Satka and her date and boyfriend

SURROUNDED BY GIRLS IN WHITE, A LONE SENIOR BOY STANDS OUT IN RED AS HE WAVES TO THE CROWD FROM THE TRACK. GRADUATES FILED OUT OF THE AUDITORIUM, STAYING IN ORDER AS THEY MADE THEIR WAY TO THE FOOTBALL FIELD. MOST WERE THANKFUL THE CEREMONY WAS OUTSIDE, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS A BIT CHILLY AFTER SUNSET.

REALLY LAUGHING HARD, SUSAN DOANE FALLS BACK INTO HER CHAIR WITH EXCITEMENT AFTER A CRACK ABOUT THE PRINCIPAL WAS MADE BY A STUDENT SPEAKER. THE AUDIENCE MANY NOT HAVE UNDERSTOOD EVERY JOKE, BUT STUDENTS SURE DID RECOGNIZE THE HUMOR.

DEEP IN THOUGHT, JEREMY GORDEN SITS WAITING TO RECEIVE HIS DIPLOMA, REMINISCING THE PAST AS HE FOCUSES TO HIS FUTURE. LIKE GORDEN MOST STUDENTS ARE READY TO START LIFE IN THE 'REAL WORLD'

The Class of '04 Soars to New Heights

Where do you see yourself

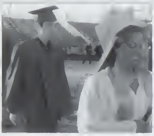
10 years

from now?

"I see myself being a special education teacher somewhere, hopefully not here, but married in ten years."

Christina Priest, 12

About to address the Class of 2004 for the last time Principal Richard Kirchner stands in front of a sea of red and white mortarboards as he collects his thoughts Graduates will remember Kirchner for his "Positive attitude, Positive day" mentality that he always stressed during announcements.



With the rest of the class following in behind them David Bellamy an Maria Belville processes onto the football field Bellville keeps her eyes on the path to make sure not to trip, while Bellamy holds his head high and looks toward the crowd

In the top of their class, Christopher Issac and Kara Lane sit decked out in their honors diploma sashes proudly sporting their ACES medallions as well In the program they were recognized for their numerous accomplishments.

[illegible] feeling into the [illegible] dancing on the house floor contestants made their way to the stage for the opening number Stayin Alive. With matching shades, Kari Campbell and Jacqueline Kennedy bust a move John Travolta-stlye pumping up the crowd for the night of retro fun.

With so many hours of serious talent rehearsal and intense dance practices the girls take advantage of any opportunity to goof around. While laughing hysterically at herself, Jacqueline Barnum prances crazily down the runway practicing poise and self expression. Even though zany, Barnum impressed the judges and was scored high enough to be in the top ten finalists.

Alone on the stage in the middle of the hot spotlight, Amanda Vie impresses the judges with her incredible artistic dance routine. Vie made it to the top-ten finalists, which in years past had been the top-twelve. Many people were disappointed that the number of finalists were cut from twelve contestants to ten.

What is the ideal Junior Miss like?

"Someone who is down to earth, friendly, very personable, articulates well, and someone who walks across the stage beautifully."

-Trisha Sabocik, 11

"Someone who is true, graceful, intelligent and caring."

-Brittany Banic, 11

Stayin' Alive with '05

Friday, June 4, 2004

On the magical nights of the Junior Miss Scholarship Program, the junior girls were given the opportunity to shine on stage. Every girl sustains numerous segments such as an interview, physical routine, poise (self-expression) routine, talent, and of course judged on their overall academic background and cumulative test scores throughout their high school years thus far into their education at PHS.

"I really just wanted to have fun. Of course, getting some scholarships was also a very big draw. The free food didn't hurt either!" said Laura Merkner.

Although the tasks may seem intimidating or overwhelming to some in the beginning, by the end of the final night, all anxiety is put aside and the true spirit of Junior Miss becomes apparent in all of the young ladies. With energy high, and adrenaline pumping, the girls go out every night for three nights and shine during their respective task for the evening, depending on their designated group. Although some people may be under the assumption that it is a pageant, the entire student body should be well aware that the program is designed to provide financial assistants to excellent students planning on continuing to higher education. Every girl should take advantage of this amazing opportunity to be apart of one of the greatest experiences a girl can have while in high school, these are awesome, memorable times.

"It is a fabulous experience and everybody should take the opportunity to be involved in this program. Don't be afraid, because it is an amazing, once in a life time event," said Gina Gaboian.

Junior Miss is highly recommended to every junior girl, not only because of the obvious financial rewards which could be accumulated, but because of the memories and lifelong friendships.

"You will grow a lot individually and in your friendships, as well as having tons of fun throughout the entire experience!" said a very spirited Kari Campbell.

Although all of the Junior Miss contestants are of course winners in the eyes of everyone who knows them, in the eyes of this years judges, the winners were as follows; spirit of Junior Miss Trisha Sabocik, fourth runner-up Ashley Parish, third runner-up Stephanie Chaddock, second runner up Laura Merkner, first runner-up Brie Hettrick, and this year's honor of Junior Miss was bestowed upon Amanda Morales.

Junior Miss this year was different for two main reasons. One, because of the finalists being limited to ten girls instead of the well-known twelve, but also because a fellow student was given the task of playing the piano for the poise routine and for all piano required talents. Jana Zervos was an amazing asset to this year's program, and her amazing talents were enjoyed by all who are honored enough to hear her play on the Portage High School stage.

Junior Miss is one of those chances that one can only experience once in a lifetime! So if you are reading this and you are a junior or will be a junior in time, think about being a part of this memorable and fantastic experience for unique young women such as yourself.

Story By: Emily Cliver and Elizabeth A. Sefcik

The young ladies of Junior Miss are involved in a wide variety of activities. Ashley Craft put down her pen and camera, taking a breather from Pow Wow to compete.

The talent segment of the show can be very nerve-racking for new performers, but experienced dancer Brie Hettrick shows no fear as she taps her way all over the stage to 'LOVE. Slowing the minute thirty routine down for only a second, First Runner Up Hettrick gestures that 'Love is more than just a game for two.

Most of the practices are early in the morning, making it a challenge for the girls just to stay awake. Roberta Vargas and Lizabeth Koonce work on the fitness routine smiling as they wake up a bit to the upbeat 70's music.

For the final night of competition several junior boys are asked escort the girls on stage. During a practice, Teri Harrington is lead by Kyle Devaney to the microphone after a graceful curtsey where she received a rose.

Dressed in Junior Miss T-shirts and sporting cool shades, Stevie Chaddock and Melanie Dallas loosen up in the commons before the final night of competition begins, entertaining fellow contestants. Once the preliminaries are over it is easy for the girls to sit back and make the most of the last night together.

The Junior Misses of 2003 are a very friendly group; moreover they are an extremely musical bunch. Inbetween lunch and practicing the girls gathered around the piano, singing random songs while junior Jana Zervos played for all of them.

Trying to settle their nerves before heading out on stage for the first night of preliminaries, Tasha Papchronis and Kelly Canner joke around, lightening the mood. Dressed in their formals, the girls show their true colors and how kooky they really are, despite fancy evening attire.

The goal of the Junior Miss program is to make new friends and learn about oneself through the unique experience. On the last day, the contestants, now a family, gathered to vote for whom they felt best embodied the spirit of the program.

Reigning Junior Miss Kara Lane hugged Amanda Morales just after she was announced the 2005 Junior Miss. Morales accepted her flowers, walked the runway and shortly thereafter took the throne, beginning her reign just before the excited crowd rushed the stage, congratulating her on the outstanding performance.

With so many original personalities, the young women find it challenging to be together, but this year's group took the chance to meet new people and ran with it. Ashley Aebig and Katie Wilson sit in the commons before the finals, talking as they watch others prepare.

What is your Most Memorable Moment?

"The sing-a-longs after lunch with Jana playing the piano will always be a nice group memory. It was really fun."

-Laura Merkner, 11

"My favorite part was when the audience laughed at my sarcasm in my self-written monologue. I'm happy that they found it amusing and funny."

-Gina Garcian, 11

Many of the contestants carry themselves very gracefully. Ashley Parrish was one of the three young women recognized with a Poise and Self Expression Scholarship Award. Parrish's impressive score in the poise segment of the competition propelled her to the finals where she finished as fourth runner up.

PORTAGE
PORTAGE
PORTAGE

The word sport, in one-way or another, was born in ancient Greece when, as many know, competitions were held to determine the best man in the way of strength. Medals, money, and other prizes were handed out to ones who excelled after the grueling competitions. After all of these years, the act of awarding those who prevail has not changed much. However, when participating in a high school sport, athletes walk away with a lot more than ever expected.

A wide variety of sports are offered here at Portage High School, giving students the chance to reach their full potential both physically and mentally. Being physically active and in good shape overall has been proven to reduce stress and can lead to living long and healthy. On the other side of the field, athletics provide most with not only strength but also determination. When given the chance to compete, a little bit of drive should never be in short supply. The confidence some acquire helps indefinitely throughout their everyday lives.

Thus being said, athletics promote the well-being of every student and coach involved.

Team work leads to victories
AND LIFELONG FRIENDSHIPS

Ending their seasons with incredible records, both The varsity and junior varsity squads have had nothing short of amazing seasons.

Throughout the year, both squads have put forth nothing but pure heart and dedication towards their team. Practices began early into the summer and ended just recently after the Varsity squads devastating loss during the second round of sectionals.

Early into the season the girls sweat through two a day practices consisting of sprints on top of sprints. When the new school year started, the team practiced just as intensely as ever by sacrificing nearly every afternoon of the week to practice.

As a result of all of this practice and dedication, it may make one view these girls as all work and no play, but that is truly not the case. Both squads had gotten just as much out of the team as they put into it. Close-knit bonds were created from all the time spent together, which made these girls practically inseparable. Many girls, such as senior Kelly Guba, felt that the relationship created among all of the girls is the best part of being a member of the team.

"We are all the best of friends, and we have so much fun during the soccer season!" states Guba.

The fact that these girls are so close with one another may very well explain why both teams were so successful this season. Setting goals was yet another prime example of why these girls have been this victorious. Goals set as a team and also as individuals helped to aid in all of their accomplishments.

Even though the team had set the goal of state, which fell a bit short, on the positive side other goals were met and used as motivation for all the girls to work together and play harder. Not only were team goals set individuals also set personal goals for themselves.

"My goal was to play in some varsity games," explains freshman Samantha Labno.

Despite whether goals were reached or not, or how many games were won and lost, all these girls gave this season nothing short of their all. Not only were these girls hard working, many have made this sport into their life's passion. No longer is this just a game for the girls, it truly became a life-style. Few people have the heart or even the mind set to go through what these girls have. These accomplishments have been made obvious throughout all of their efforts. These girls eat, drink, and sleep this sport, and it shows.

Photo By: Elizabeth Sefcik

Photo By: Elizabeth Sefcik

In a last minute attempt to score, freshman Ashley Carns slides into the other team's goalie. This was Ashley's first year on the soccer team.

Photo By: Elizabeth Sefcik

Ready to kick the ball back into play, sophomore Alicia Mendoza takes a running start. Alicia Mendoza is a member of the junior varsity squad.

WHAT MAKES SOCCER WORTH THE WHILE?

"I've played soccer most of my life and after so much time the other girls on the team have become almost like sisters to me. We all love playing the sport and work really well together."

Stacy Levack, 9

"Playing soccer takes a lot of hard work and dedication, but I love making new friends and it feels good to be part of a team."

Melanie Griffin, 9

Before the Chesterton game, senior Sherry Levack takes some time alone to warm up. Sherry has been involved with the team since she was a freshmen.

Photo By: Elizabeth Sefcik

After playing, the junior varsity girls line up to support and cheer on the varsity girls from the sidelines. Both teams have had an outstanding year.

Photo By: Elizabeth Sefcik

Ready to defend the goal at any cost senior Megan Homolla waits for the opposition to come her way during warm-ups. Megan was one of the many seniors on the team.

Photo By: Elizabeth Sefcik

With determination to keep the ball, freshmen Trisha Berryman breaks through Hobart's defense. The girls went 16-0 in regular season.

The soccer team is most definitely one of diversity. Swedish Foreign Exchange Student Pontus Ternstrom kicks the ball away from his opponent, showing the US what he is made of.

Out of breath, tired from sprinting up and down the field, sophomores Aaron Lopez and Eric Ruiz zero in on a player, attacking the competition as they dribble the ball.

Overcoming Last Season

Boys Finally Get Some Satisfaction

McLEOD- With eleven wins, five loses, and one tie, the boys' soccer team had an overall superior season, improving last year's record immensely. The athletes, satisfied and swollen with pride, played with loads of heart, accomplishing so much this season.

As with most every sport at Portage High School and others across the globe, the challenges surmount with other responsibilities, but also add to valuable lessons in a teenager's life. Being able to manage one's school performance during the season is just one characteristic that all athletes have to adjust to possess. On game nights, athletes are bombarded with homework and return home after 9:30 at night, or even later with away games, and find themselves up for hours finishing their school assignments. Maintaining a good G.P.A. is harder than those not involved in sports would believe, but the benefits of managing both are rewarding.

It can be agreed that soccer is full of excitement along with many struggles. The adrenaline rush just minutes before game time gives the athletes motivation to win. The competitive game keeps audiences enthusiastic, supporting the team until the final buzzer.

This season gave inspiration to the younger players and diehard fans for coming seasons. It also left the seniors with feelings of great accomplishments that they take with them in their future endeavors.

Once junior Dennis Brubaker kicks the ball out of his opponents reach, junior Steven Hojnacki takes action by recovering the ball. Hojnacki and Brubaker, along with fellow junior Kyle Dean who stays near incase his teammates, make their best effort to win on their home field.

Before every soccer game, the team stands up and waits for a Portage High school student to sing the National Anthem. Juniors Anthony Leal and Jacob Bryan stand for the song before they prepare for the night game. Byran, the goalkeeper, and the rest of the team take the field and are announced for the fans in the crowd.

Before the game, the boys soccer team warm up and loosen their muscles. Some of the seniors gather the starters to discuss various strategies and plays that will be used in the game.

Every team member has their own unique talent frosh David Guitieriez brings a lot to the field. Guitieriez, an aggressive athlete, slides and kicks his opponent in order to attain the ball.

Massow Sets Example for Cross Future

CROSS GIRLS MISS OUT ON STATE GOAL, SUSTAIN UNITY

Passion, endurance, and stamina are the qualities possessed by this year's girls' cross country team.

"Not many people have the guts, not to mention the mentality to run cross," said senior Amanda Massow about the characteristics needed to be successful.

This year's group was made up of freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and one senior. The entire group worked as a family to help motivate and improve throughout the very successful season.

"Our team improved as the season went along, with most of our girls running their fastest in the last few weeks of the season," said head coach Charles Heimberg.

Although the team as a whole did not achieve their goal of going to state, the girls grew closer and in the end, ended up cheering for freshman Christina Blackwell who did make the trip to Bloomington.

"We all push each other to be better, and it makes us closer," said freshman Emily Robbins.

The girls had an over all record of 5-2 for the season. They did very well, placing 3rd at sectionals, 4th at regionals, and 6th at semi-state. People are under the assumption that cross country is an individual sport, but that is just a myth.

"Since cross country can easily be mistaken for an individualized sport, I think we all do a great job encouraging each other," added Massow.

This year's season was filled with emotion, fun, and camaraderie. Next year's group is sure to continue the success of this year's team by maintaining the same great attitude and persevering their next goal.

Heart is a key component in long distance running, and freshman Tiffaney Caluag exhibits this quality with every race. As a freshman she has a long and exciting career ahead of her. She is sure to be a future key ingredient in the success of the Portage High School Cross Country team for years to come.

Drive and concentration are only two of the many qualities a cross country runner needs to possess in order to become a successful runner. Junior Katie Nelson utilizes these tools in a local race at Woodland Park. Nelson has grown into the runner she is today through lessons learned from numerous coaches and teammates.

With three seasons under her belt, junior Leah Bearss is determined to continue her success with discipline and loads of confidence. Being a junior, Bearss looks toward next year with excitement, ready to be a leader and mentor for her teammates. Bearss has lettered all three years she has participated in cross country.

Pride and grace define the Markwell sisters who aim to win every race either individually or as the "sister team" they are known for. They have both been recognized for their success by lettering in numerous sports, which just goes to prove their versatility and genuine athleticism.

IS YOUR TEAM LIKE AN EXTENDED FAMILY?

"Definitely! Even thought I wouldn't say I'm the best of friends with all the girls, I look at them all as sisters. We spend so much time together and watch each other grow as people. It's hard not to love one another!"

Meagan Royce 11

"Yes, because we have been with each other since June 9th and we learn to put up with each other whether we wanted to or not."

Katie Hargarten 9

In order to perform at their best, it is imperative to warm up and socialize with the teamates in order to maintain team morale. Senior Amanda Massow and freshman Emily Robbins spend time warming up before the meet to prevent injuries or poor performances throughout the meet.

At a cross country meet at Woodland Park against the LaPorte team, the Portage team crouches and prays before they get ready to run one of their first meets. Each member takes a minute or two before the meet to readily prepare themselves for the big event that they have ahead of them.

On the day of the meet against LaPorte, juniors Christopher Curiel and Ryan Mueller run to the finish line. That day the Portage Cross Country team came out victorious. Curiel and Mueller also did very well at regionals and all in all did an excellent job.

Most of the boys on the cross country team do not believe in any such thing called luck. Some might say there is no such thing as luck in running, only skill. Freshman Steven Bain keeps a steady pace while in a race against LaPorte. Luck has nothing to do with his born talent in running.

Golf is a sport takes time have more comfortable being able each memher have their own plays. "I really enjoy Think that because home ground easiest course "My favorite moment focused when

DO YOU THINK THAT YOU GAVE IT YOUR ALL?

"I gave a good effort this year but it wasn't my all. Even though I was in the top twelve, I still hadn't tapped into my true potential. I believe next year I can be much faster once I gain enough cuurage to push my body to its limits."

Kevin Parkerson, 1[illegible]

"This was my first year in high school cross. It was a whole different atmosphere frum middle school to high school. I feel that I still have a lot to learn about running and reaching my full potential.

Marc Santarromana, 10

While running against Valparaiso and Michigan City, junior Rob Bailey keeps a steady pace for his current run against his opponents. Bailey is considered one of the leaders of cross country this year. His fellow peers feel that he is a good person to look to for advice on their races. Bailey gives his fellow racers guidance on their strides and whatever else they need to do well.

At the meet at Woodland Park, against their opponent LaPorte, junior Timothy Dohner takes a couple of minutes to get ready for his run in a few moments. He stretches and prepares whatever needs to be done so that he can be absolutely prepared to do his best for the team that day of the meet.

Boys Cross Kicks It Up In The End

Developing leadership & establishing team unity contribute to strong finish after slow start

McLEOD-This year, the boys cross country team stuck together with leadership and constant effort. Each member relied on one another to do well as a team. That made them become aware of how significant it is to get along and work simultaneously as one. Evidently, each team member considers someone else on the team a true leader.

"I would definitely say that Rob Bailey is considered a leader for the team, because not only does he keep his individual goals in mind, but he also keeps the team in line and keeps us motivated," states junior Jason Willis.

Prior to each meet, the team takes time to chant together and obtain a moment to concentrate. Each member chants, "Portage Kicks!" and they also pray together before each meet. A selected few have charms of good luck, but the majority of the team doesn't believe much in luck.

"There is no luck in cross country, only skill," says freshman Michael Stevens.

Midway in the season the team took a sharp turn. They were not doing very well at the beginning, but they successfully came together. They worked together and showed one another that they could do it.

"We had a very good meet in the middle of the season, and it was like our first good meet of the season. Before this race we were not yet ranked and we destroyed an 11th ranked team and we confused their coaches and the opponent," states junior Michael Kirk.

For sectionals the cross country team ended up in third place and advanced to regionals. Individual aspirations were met by Bailey, who finished third, Jim Flannery, finishing ninth, Jeremy Davies who finished eleventh, and Kirk who ended up fifteenth. Then the boys moved on to compete at regionals where they finished in second place. The team's next obstacle was semi-state where as a team they finished in 4th place.

"This season went really well this year, so I am happy with the way the season turned out," states Kirk.

The team did an overall exceptional job. Each team member seems to be tremendously pleased with their presentation. Even though their famous phrase, "Portage Kicks" does not have much to do with running, they are just kicking it up, really showing the region what Portage athletes are all about.

At the meet at Sunset Hill in Valparaiso, junior Daniel McCune runs against the opponents, Valparaiso and Michigan City. McCune uses a good luck charm while he runs his races. McCune places the good luck charm under his shoes to better perform while he performs each run.

Books Equal Birdies in '03

GIRLS' GOLF READS TOGETHER, DRAWING FOCUS TO WIN

Golf is considered to be a sport that many see as either boring, or something that old men play on the weekends. The girls' golf team considers the sport anything but boring.

"Golf is a sport that takes time, concentration, patience and a good attitude," Junior Lynda Stinson states, adding that, "It's not what everyone seems to think of it. Maybe if they took time and went out and learned about the sport, they would think differently."

Robinhurst is the team's home ground. The course allowed the girls to have a more comfortable game, and being able to learn the course in a short amount of time. Each member had their own opinions about which course was their favorite in the conference.

"I really enjoyed playing at Robinhurst. It seemed like the easiest course that we played on. Maybe I just think that because it's our home ground; usually that's the easiest course to compete on," Sophomore Jennifer Mose addressed.

At the end of the season, a bonfire was held for all the girls to attend. Throughout the season many embarrassing moments and days to remember were created.

"My favorite moment of the season was when I hit a range ball 150 yards. It was the first time I had ever hit the ball that far and it was really exciting for me," Sophomore Megan Jordan addressed.

The team's cooperation and teamwork helped the girls bond and become closer than they were before. Getting together before a match and reading Harvey Penniah books to get their mind on the game of golf would focus the team.

"We really got focused when we read those books. It's almost like it made you concentrate more on the game and forget about anything else around you," Sophomore Christina Stewart stated.

Being able to focus all summer will certainly help the girls out for next season. Another season, with new members adding to the team will definitely help lead to another year of great memories and fun.

Festival this year emotional choraliers for the seniors of concert also a big teachers as peers. It al adds for join chior. "many people emotional sometimes of the school year is a big time great to get middle top.

HOW COULD YOU HAVE IMPROVED YOUR GAME

"Practice on the weekends. Six days a week, as long as I possibly could I would try to get the biggest head start I could before each match, and be sure that my game will be more accurate."

Christina Stewart, 10

"I would have practiced a lot more and got the team together to get motivated before each meet. I'd also try to get the team together for more practices during the season."

Lisa Whitworth, 10

With the ball on it's way to the hole, junior Kari Campbell follows her put. Kari is one of the returning lettermen from last season.

As other teammates await their turn sophomores Natalie Kovoichevich and Nicole Sefelt watch their fellow players. This is both Natalie and Nicole's first year on the golf team.

After taking a few practice swings, sophomore Megan Jordan is ready to go. While taking time to be sure her shot will be accurate: Jordan's teammmates practice some of their putting.

On the second hole of the course, junior Lynda Stinson gets off to an outstanding start, while swinging with great accuracy. Stinson shoots the ball accross the the fairway to the green.

While carefully watching her target, sophomore Lauren Ruzga swings with authority. Parterning up with junior Lynda Stinson; the two worked together in order to help their final score of the game.

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WHAT SKILLS ARE
NECESSARY FOR TENNIS?

The skills necessary are great endurance, hand and eye coordination, and the will to learn the game better

Kevin Dixon 11

The most valuable key aspect for tennis is the heart and desire for the game. There is no point in playing if you don't have the love for it

Sammie Maletta II 12

There is a long and treacherous journey bestowed upon the feet of senior Sammie Maletta II and junior Kristopher Enstrom. Endless contemplation leads to the senseless mauling of the opposing team.

As he soars over the court, senior Sammie Maletta II, counter attacks a once ferocious hit by the defenseless and weak opposing player

Like a crouching tiger, hunting a hidden dragon, junior Marc Jones, patiently awaits the ball to bless the net of his racket just to be shot back at Mach speeds to the defense that is as helpless as a rat in a cage.

Named the MVP of the year junior Kevin Dixon, smacks with skill and grace back at the bad guys. Dixon is expected to be the captain for next year's crew. GO KEV!

'Blue Collar Tennis' season disappoints

UNSUCCESSFUL SEASON LEADS TO BETTER HOPE FOR NEXT

The Boys Tennis team for the 2003 season came out with a 5-8 season, which includes the destructively disappointing loss to Valparaiso in the first round of sectionals. The biggest accomplishments this year were not only the victories, but also the way each member of the team grew and learned that the letter "I" really is not in the word "team" but rather in "unity".

"I am satisfied with it (the season) because I improved so much, even though I did not win a match There is always next season." This was a well-learned lesson for sophomore Robert Liesch. Liesch's contagiously optimistic attitude only proves that in sports, it is not all about winning, but it is chiefly about the fun.

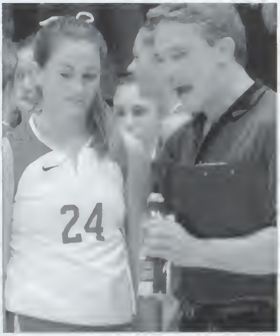
While tennis is not by any means "all the rage" as other sports such as football, basketball, baseball, wrestling, swimming, golf, or bowling, it still requires great ability, long hours of hard practice, and an equal passion for victory. The fundamental elements for a successful season are to obtain a team with great passion and aspiration and a coach that loves what he or she does, epitomizing the entire '03 season and their astonishing coach Vanessa George.

"Aptitude is a good characteristic and you should be at practices and do your best day in and day out," stated Roberto Balderas.

There is no wisdom like the voice of experience and this world has never seen experience better exemplified than by Portage's Tennis Braves. Throughout the entire season, victories on and off the court, literal and otherwise, have transformed a group of guys into a team.

In between a change-up, junior Kristopher Enstrom stretches his sides with the help of his racket. Enstrom also participated in boys track this season rather than baseball as in the past.

To avoid the carelessness brought by a lack of discipline, coach Ed Dixon offers his expertise to guide freshman Kateland Hojnacki in becoming a leader for next year.



No one can touch sophomore Kristen Myers as she dazzles the crowd with her stunning "bump" techniques.

With nothing to prove, junior Cara Horner leads the team with her unbeatable• perseverance and initiative as a team player and as a scholarly student. Undoubtedly, her skill and devotion was a huge morale-booster for the team and for the coaches.

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WHAT CHALLENGES
WERE FACED THIS SEASON?

Stepping up as a senior was hard at times. The most challenging part was having to play with players you've never played with before because some of the starters couldn't play

Priscilla Ramos 12

It was a little hard at first being a freshman on varsity. I was a little nervous if I was going to fit in, but the girls are awesome and I had fun.

Katie Hojnacki 9

In almost ritualistic fashion, Lady Indians join hands in unity as a team before the start of the game, drawing them closely together as a team and as a family to crush the opposition and come away with the most important victory: friendship.

Practice makes perfect and this doctrine is manifested by junior Amy Samplawski as she "bumps" the ball over the net to further advance her team during hard competition.

Volleyball Looks Forward

A YEAR OF PREPARATION LEAVES HIGH HOPES FOR NEXT YEAR

Despite the fact that the varsity volleyball team suffered from a losing season, the fault certainly does not lie within the skill of individual players, but was partially due to the unfortunate loss of leadership from five returning seniors that stepped away from the team. With only two seniors on the entire team, leadership roles had to be assumed by the younger players, stifling the potential of the team as a whole.

"Even though we had a very young team, everybody really stepped up and did what was needed to be done," remembers senior Jennifer Owen.

The 2003 volleyball season was one of developing relationships and building foundations for next year's team.

"This year, we basically got a head start on work we would have to do next year," explained freshman Lauren Pirowski.

With these new foundations, next year's team is sure to be one of continued friendships, lasting work ethic, inspiration, and a hard-earned success brought only by the difficulties faced by the team this year.

"Next year's team will be so much better. All of this year's juniors will be next year's seniors with experience in leadership," predicted sophomore Kimberly Weiland.

All eyes are focused on next year's team with high expectations in hopes for a winning outcome next season after all the rebuilding that consumed so much of this year's efforts.

ALL WORK AND NO PLAY

Freshmen Win Portage Tournament

As with many other sports, during the season the girls of the volleyball team had almost no free time. These girls would stay after school from 3 p.m. to 5 or 5:30 every day from August to October. The ladies also gave up many of their Saturdays and most of their summer. This is all so they can practice and become the best team that they can be.

"I don't mind practicing every day. My goal as is to keep pushing myself to become a better athlete and I think the practices help me with this," sophomore Colleen Scott said.

This seemed to work for the freshmen volleyball team because on Saturday, Sept. 27th these girls took first place at the Portage Volleyball Tournament which was held at Portage. The girls beat Lake Central, Crown Point, and Kankakee Valley in this tournament.

"The freshman team hasn't won the Portage Tournament in years, so winning it made it one of my most memorable moments of the season." freshmen, Andrea Amstein.

Even thought there are three different volleyball teams in the school, that doesn't mean that they don't help each other out. Some of the varsity players have inspired and influenced some of the other girls.

"Cara Horner has influenced me in many ways. She plays all the way around and is an awesome middle hitter. I want to be able to pass and hit like she does," freshman Leighan Smith said.

The freshmen and JV teams have had a really good season this school year and the girls hope that next season they will be able to play harder and be faster then this year.

You should always be prepared for whatever can happen next. Sophomore Colleen Scott is trying to prepare herself for action on the court. Scott sharpens her skills by playing Duneland Volleyball in the off season.

There is no "I" in "Team" and the girls' volleyball team shows that. Before the start of each game the girls go out onto the middle of the court and form a circle. They wish each other good luck and hope for a winning game without any injuries. The girls usually end the circle and start the game after a quick "Go Team!"

WHAT WAS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT?

"My most memorable moment of the season was when I won a game for my team. It was my serve and we were down by six. I scored eight points, winning the game for my team."

Heather Gregory 9

"My most memorable moment was when the freshman team won the Portage Tournament. The freshmen haven't won this tournament in years, so it was fun to be on a winning team."

Rachel Wyatt 9

Volleyball can be a very demanding game and can make its players very tired. Here freshman Lauren Pirowski and sophomore Rachel Reed are looking exhausted but their passion and will to win won't let them quit until they take home the victory.

After a long game, the girls start to get tired and cranky. Freshman Hannah Lindstrom is irritated at her teammate because she just missed the ball. Things can get really heated during the games and things can be said that the girls don't mean, but at the end of the day the girls are still a very close knit team.

Over the summer months, the girls' volleyball team went on a trip to Cedar Point where they played volleyball on the beach and just had fun as a team. Here some of the girls take a quick lunch break while resting after all of their fun in the sun.

The defensive line prepares to work in overdrive to defeat Penn in their regional game. Unfortunately, this game was the end of their season.

Tensions mount for the offensive line at the line of scrimmage. The team tried their best all season to avoid the dread off-sides foul that plagues many a football team and coaching staffs.

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HOW DID YOU FEEL
WHEN YOU LOST REGIONALS?

"It felt like my world came to an end working so hard for four years to get this far and it's all over. it was all so surreal."

Shawn Sparks 12

"When it first happened i felt so bad and disappointed that we did not win, but then you start to think about it and you find ways to improve the mistakes made so we can go all the way to state next year."

Jake Huston,

After every victorious home game, the crowd hears the team chant their song. This song was heard many times during the season.

Before returning back to the field, the players listen to Coach Buzea. Following his advice gives another winning play for the offense.

One Step Closer to the End

PORTAGE FALLS SHORT IN REGIONAL GAME AGAINST PENN

Once again, the crowd finds themselves watching our Merrillville transfer Antoine Brown scoring another touchdown as Portage leads 40 to 16. This was heard many times throughout the stadium this season by fans as Portage took its entourage all the way to regionals.

Unfortunately, our victory fell short when we lost to Penn with a score of 32 to 13. Portage had a victorious year with 8 wins and 1 loss almost completing an undefeated season. The LaPorte Slicers defeated Portage by one point in the last waking millisecond of the game, giving the Indians the title of co-DAC champions.

Losing against Penn in Regionals was as much of a heartbreak to the players as it was to the fans. The team felt it hard to leave the field after the game in shock that they did not win.

"Leaving the field for the last time knowing that it was all over was really depressing especially to the seniors because it was our last game," said senior Artemio DelReal.

On a lighter note, this year was a year of victory, especially for the seniors finishing their last year in high school with a great season. Portage was on top throughout Porter County. Although they did not make it to state, the upcoming seniors are sure to bring Portage down to the dome in Indianapolis.

The 2003 football team has gone a long way. Besides being DAC champs in 1999, the team this year has been named DAC and Sectional champs. The team this year has been a great success and played great games that the crowd enjoyed to watch and cheer on the team and close friends.

"We thought for sure this year we would make it to state, but I guess bragging about it so much jinxed us and we lost our chance at state, its really depressing," stated senior Darrell Hobgood.

The 2003 football team has gone a long way. Besides being DAC champs in 1999, the team this year has been named DAC and Sectional champs. The team this year has been a great success and played great games that the crowd enjoyed to watch and cheer on the team and close friends.

With the disappointment on their faces at the of the end of their winning streak, Seniors Darrell Hobgood and Kyle Autrey intensely pace on the sideline as the fourth quarter finishes.

A good defensive line tries to entrap the opposing teams offense. Here, the Indians go in for the kill against Crown Point.

An aggressive tackle is exactly what Senior Shawn Sparks has. The nice autumn night of homecoming , Portage dominated Crown Point with a score of 56-0.

Communication is the most important key for any football team. This quality will rise above anything else. Here, the junior varsity players look towards each other, reading one another to begin the play.

Once the ball is snapped in play, freshman Andrew Corbin takes his position. As tight end, he has to always be ready to cease any on coming opponents his way.

Setting the Standards

RISING ABOVE THE REST HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE GOAL.

By Katrina Batista

BATISTA-Setting the standards of excellence is exactly what the 2003 junior varsity and freshmen football teams accomplished this year. "Great defense, dominant line play, and an all around 100% effort from the team lead to a great year," proclaimed head freshmen coach Jay Hodges.

The freshmen team concluded their season with a victorious 8-0-1 record, with their last game resulting in a 38-38 tie against the LaPorte High School. "Our goal set for the season by the whole team, was to go undefeated and be the DAC Champions," stated freshman defensive end Kevin Jones.

In tying with the LaPorte team, the freshmen team took the title as Duneland Conference Co-Champions. Being satisfied with that, the boys all agree they had an excellent season thanks to the compelling coaching of Hodges.

As for the junior varsity team, they finished their season with an outstanding 7-2 record held by dominating scores.

"I thought we lived up to our expectations," stated junior safety Mark Scheuer, "but we could have always gone farther."

Both teams put forth their best effort through out the season and left with proceeding expectations for the years to come.

"It's always a rollercoaster," says sophomore runnning back Randall Dawkins, "it can begin with a victory, but only lead to defeat, eventually in the end it brings out your true respect for the game."

The freshmen team begins their play at the forty yard line, down and ready to do each one of their individual jobs. With all their hard work, they ended their amazing season as the DAC Champions of the year.

While riding through the streets of Portage, junior varsity players wave to all the oncoming bystanders as they pass by. Riding in the homcoming parade has been a tradition for years.

As an opponent takes off towards the end zone, sophomore Justin Smith tracks him down and makes the tackle only mere yards from the goal. Smith's opponent is no challenge against his immense speed and his agility.

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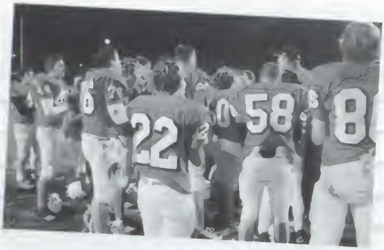
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FLY FOR VICTORY

Coach Turpa Resigns

Leaves to be assistant coach at VU

WFT· This year the girl's varsity basketball coach, Renee Turpa resigned. Turpa has been a coach at Portage for twenty-five years. She will be an assistant coach at Valparaiso University next year. The head coach from Hobart will be taking her place.

"I love her!" stated senior Nicole McDonald. "Turpa is a great coach and things will never be the same without her. She is not only an outstanding coach, but a very good friend as well."

Some coaches do not get enough recognition for what they do.

"Turpa definitely doesn't get the respect she deserves. I never felt that close to her until this year. She helped me so much by finding a college to play basketball at. She knows people from everywhere and really helped me out a lot," stated senior Krystal Rigoni.

Not every team has the talent to win, but more so the passion to win.

"We definitely had the heart, but the talent just wasn't there this year," explains McDonald.

Over all, the season presented itself with a much better outcome then the previous year.

"This year was an overall accomplishment. We didn't have girls bringing us down. Every girl cared and every girl tried to perform at her best ability. What more could you ask for?" stated McDonald.

The three seniors that remained this year were Emily Safstrom, Krystal Rigoni, and Nicole McDonald.

"My personal goal this year was definitely to get noticed and to show everyone that I have the talent of being a basketball player," stated Rigoni.

They did their job as seniors and lead the team strong, and taught the team everything they've learned.

McDonald plans to continue playing basketball at Southern Indiana University next fall and Rigoni intends to play at Purdue Calumet.

These seniors only can hope that the younger girls will follow their footsteps.

With mother Wanda, senior Emily Safstrom was recognized for her hard work, dedication and talent on and off of the basketball court.

missed three pointer leads to a dead ball on the floor. Junior Tiffany Effantis tries to recover the ball from her opponents.

WHAT IS ONE THING YOU'LL MISS ABOUT TURPA?

"I'm really going miss Mrs. Turpa's 'giddy' attitude and her love for the game."

Emily Safstrom 12

"I'll definitely miss how fired up she would get when and her inspirational quotes to help us focus on the game."

Heather Markwell, 11

After a brawl for the ball, senior Crystal Rigoni gets up to get ready for the free-throw line. The senior contributed a great deal to the team and will be greatly missed.

After a hard fall to the floor, senior Crystal Rigoni shoots two. Rigoni aided the Indians an easy basket while concentrating on her target. Free-throw shooting was practiced to perfection by each one of the team members whom all have different technique.

As junior Amy Samplowski waits her turn to recognize one of the seniors, she smiles while one comes on the court. Samplowski is also a member of the varsity softball team.

Senior night is not looked forward to because it is the last home game of the season. These seniors were recognized for their accomplishments.

The team takes a breather as Coach Fekete calls a time out. A play is drawn out for the team in hopes that they can dominate the floor with an out of bounds ball. Each girl gathers into the huddle, uniting as one to give each other confidence before going back onto the court to finish the game.

A fast break pays off with a lay-up practiced to perfection. Freshman Samantha Labno drives down the court after an outstanding steal from a Valparaiso player. Labno's teammates follow behind, ready and waiting to receive the rebound. Freshman Stephanie Rosenbaum watches as her teammate gives the Indians another two easy points.

Will you continue B-Ball AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?

"I think that I will just because I want to prove to everyone that being a short person doesn't exactly mean that you can't make a difference in some kind of sport or life in general."

Ashley Carns, 9

"I am not exactly sure as of now if I will continue basketball after high school. I played the sport for fun, but it seems like the coaches have taken some of that fun away from me."

Stephanie Hanna, 10

Taking The Time To Make It

GIRLS' BASKETBALL MAKE TIME, SUCCEED ON THE COURT AS ONE

Many girls have learned from their previous coaches that teamwork is the key to a successful and outstanding basketball team. Coaches are a key point to having a team that is able to cooperate and play together as a whole on the floor.

"I really enjoy my coaches and teammates," Junior Louisa Mund stated. "They are really nice and funny and they are also dedicated. They really make you work to the best of your ability."

Practice makes perfect. The girls practiced Monday through Friday and they often even prepared for the games on Sunday from 3:00-6:00. While some players felt practices were to long, they still added to their love for the sport.

"At the time when we practiced, it really felt like forever, but we needed to get better, so it's all right with me," sophomore Rachel Reed said.

The Portage Indians toppled over their rival Lake Central Indians during the season, giving them a victory to help boost their esteem.

"My favorite game of the season was when we beat Lake Central. We played well as a team, and I was the leading scorer!" Freshman Stacy Levack commented.

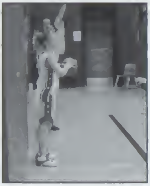
Many of the girls stated that they were both motivated and inspired to play basketball by a special someone in their life.

"My seventh grade coach Jenny Fekete inspired me to play because she was my first coach. She really made me feel comfortable and confident about myself," freshman Ashley Carns stated.

Although none of the JV or freshmen girls will be able to play for Coach Renee Turpa next season due to her retirement announcement at the end of this year, they will be sure to go into their competition next year with a positive attitude. They will be ready to take on their competitors for a season that they will be sure to never forget!

Dead silence is held in the gymnasium while freshman Stacy Levack is able to concentrates on her free throw. Levack's ritual before each game consists of eating two bananas and listening and singing to the "riot song." Stacy's hard work helped the Indians grab another bucket for the game.

With a look of fierce intimidation, sophomore Camille Lewandowski stays calm while being guarded heavily by a Crown Point player. Passing is a key part of practices for both the JV and frosh team.



Ready and waiting for her teammates to take their places, freshman Stephanie Rosenbaum keeps her eyes on the floor. Rosenbaum is sure to make a pass before her time is up.

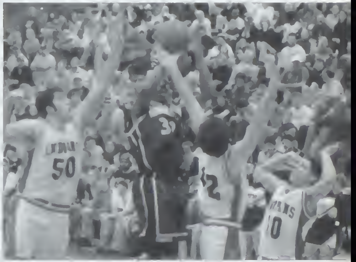
While waiting for her teammate to shoot the ball, sophomore Rachel Rimeriz patiently awaits to run in for the rebound. Being able to box out is a key point of the game, and each girl practices it to perfection.

While the anxious crowd awaits the next shot, the anticipation is felt throughout the packed gymnasium. Junior Milton Rivera goes head to head with every player he comes into contact with. During the game against Merrillville he does his job with nothing but ease.

As seniors, they are faced with the daily and constant reminder that they are the ones being looked to for leadership, discipline, and strength. Letter winners Steve Vaught and Kyle Autrey exemplify all of these hard to find attributes.

Agility and stamina are needed for every play even at the hardest times. Junior Jake Bryan does his best in blocking the opponent's ball from going into the undesirable net.

Team unity and concentration cannot go unnoticed with the 2003-2004 basketball team. Coach Bartos did an excellent job with the help of his assistants, by unifying the team and teaching about the plays that are imperative to execute and communicate the needs to maintain through the game.



With arms grabbing for the ball, senior Kyle Autrey and juniors Buster Battreal and Anthony Leal attempt to block their opponent. Sometimes, even though the court is 19 feet, [illegible] inches from base line to base line, players condense to one area of the court.

WHAT INSPIRES YOU TO PLAY BASKETBALL?

"I enjoy competing, and I like giving a show to the fans. It is fun to watch the cheerleaders, so that is not too bad either. Next year I see myself as a leader for the team."

Buster Battreal, 11

"My brother played, and I always wanted to impress him. I thought it would be cool to be on the court like he was, so I started playing basketball."

Daniel Paulsen, 12

Pressed up against the sweaty competition, senior guard Justin Ortiz protects his team's basket by making his body a wall. Even though only 5'8" tall, Ortiz appears larger than life on the court, truly a force to be reckoned with during every game.

Seniors Lead To A Strong Finish

Boys Fall Short Against Arch Rivals Valparaiso Vikings In Sectional Championship Game

CLIVER - The 2003-2004 season for the boys varsity basketball team will be remembered as one filled with successes, failures, and the overall knowledge that they succeeded everyone's expectations by making it to sectionals.

"Though we experienced some tough times in the early going- we were extremely excited to wind up in the sectional finals," said head coach Steve Bartos.

The entire team is made up of young men of all grades, but the constant leadership and team spirit expressed by the group of seniors held the team together even in the hardest of times.

"Steve Vaught, Kyle Autrey, and I were the leaders on the team, because we spoke up when we thought the other players were doing something wrong," said senior Justin Ortiz.

With an overall record of 12-11 for the regular season, the guys finished strong with a win over Merrillville to get into the sectionals.

It is a unanimous vote that the most memorable event of the season was making it to the final game, especially since it ended up against are biggest rival, Valparaiso High School.

"Playing in the sectional games was one of my favorite memories of my high school career," said senior Steve Vaught.

The underclassmen have big shoes to fill next year after the exciting and successful season of 2003-2004.

Coach Bartos is confident they will be able to step in and lead the way. Although he stated that a very strong senior group led this year's team, he also didn't forget to mention the very talented underclassmen played a vital role in their overall success.

The overall team camaraderie couldn't have been better.

"We were a lot closer than last years team, and for me personally this season will go down as the most fun and the most memorable," said senior Kyle Autrey.

All of the seniors will go on and play at the collegiate level and will no doubt be great additions to the universities at which they are attending.

"It was a pleasure playing with each and every player on the team. I've had memories with them that I will never forget," said senior Justin Ortiz.

Overall the young men of the 2003-2004 should feel accomplished and proud of their accomplishments for the season.

They will continue to grow as players and individuals as they continue their high school career or if graduating, moving on to bigger and brighter endeavors.

What Makes Basketball

STAND OUT FROM ALL OF THE OTHER TEAM SPORTS?

By [illegible] M Good

Basketball is as much about concentration as the physical ability to accomplish playing the game to the best of one's ability. You have to have your mind set on not only what you are going to do, but you also must be prepared for your opponent's moves. You have to work hard at what you do and can not give up once you have started playing the game.

"I enjoy playing basketball and it's the only sport I'll be willing to work at," said Nathan Kasper.

Basketball is not just a game of all winning and losing. It makes you work hard. You have to improve your skill and ability to continue on with the game. If you don't work hard then you should definitely not be on a basketball team. Basketball takes a lot of effort and takes up spare time. You not only practice in school, but on your own time as well. You have to make sure you keep on top of things.

Being open minded, willing to work with others, and being knowledgable are a few of the qualities you have to have in order to become a great basketball player.

"Nonstop action and the momentum of the game can shift so many ways," said Freshman Tony Donohue.

You have to be very competitive, determined, and have a will to drive yourself to be the best you possibly can. These are definitely factors in being able to play basketball. You absolutely have to have a great understanding on how to play the game.

Freshman, Eric Speer feels that "In basketball you're constantly running." It's not just something you can expect to go into and be good at. Drive and determination will help any potential athlete succeed in being a great basketball player.

"I played offense and the other teams were very competitive," said freshman Kevin Ramian. "I enjoyed playing the game as well as winning and losing."

Basketball is 50% physical and 50% mental. Junior, Daniel Warren is spontaneously waiting for his opponent's moves. He is using both the required qualities.

The hopes are high as freshman Eric Ramain tries his best to make the shot. Hard work and stamina has kept Ramian from letting his coaches and teammates down.

WHAT DO YOU DO TO PREPARE FOR GAMES?

"Think about the game as much as possible. In basketball, you need to be a team player and have great determination. You also need to have physical strength and be a hard worker."

Mike Moore 9

"I think of particular things that may occur in the games and I think of the thing I will do in the response to the situation. It mentally prepares me."

Nathan Kasper 9

All of the hard work and concentration freshman Robert Thomason has put in to his game has given him the chance to put it to use. Another point is scored by Thomason.

Pulled for a breather, freshman Robert Thomason takes freshman Eric Ramian's place. Ramian is also involved with not only basketball, but baseball as well.

Up Against the BEST

And still holding their own

HODGES-With dedication and an immense amount of practice the girls swim team has successfully completed yet another season. With a record of six and six the girls swam nothing but their hardest the whole way. Going out with a bang, the girls finished up the year placing fourth at sectionals.

During the season head coach, Ms. Melanie Peda held practices six days a week for about two and a half hours. The girls also attended morning practices every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Starting of the season by practicing specific drills and techniques the team then stepped it up by building their strength and endurance. The hard work the girls put into every race they swam definitely did not go unnoticed.

The team swam against some very tough competition this year. Teams such as Chesterton, Munster, and Lake Central gave Portage a run for their money during meets. Even though these teams were some of the best around that didn't stop the girls from giving it everything they had.

"Almost every girl improved this year. My favorite part of the year is seeing the girls improve and get closer with each other," explained head coach Peda.

From all the time these girls spent together its no surprise that the team became very close. The night before each meet the entire team would get together and have spaghetti dinners. The dinners gave the girls a chance to socialize while preparing their bodies for the competition ahead. Moments before each meet team meetings were held by the coaches to motivate and prepare the girls for the races ahead. Cheers were also said prior to meets in order to pump up the girls.

The season was memorable for each girl in her own way. Even though the girls had some forceful competition this year, it seemed to only make them push themselves harder to reach their goals.

"My most memorable moment of the season was my first dive at the last meet against Chesterton. I made a big splash, and all of my teammates screamed and cheered very, very loud, explained junior Ashley Edmonds.

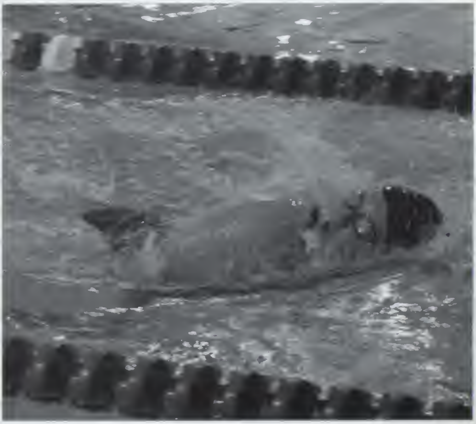
Whether goals were reached or not the girls did their best and it showed. The regular season may not have gone as well as the girls had hoped, but when sectionals rolled around the girls made an impressive comeback. Placing right up there with the top competition the girls definitely showed everyone what they were all made of.

With parents on each arm, senior Ashley Cowger is applauded by the rest of her teammates. All seniors were awarded a bouquet of flowers that night.

On senior night coach, Coach Peda hugs Bertha Morales. Morales was one of the three seniors on the team this year.

In the middle of the race, junior Jennifer Knudsen swims hard to the finish line. The girls swam against three of the toughest schools this year.

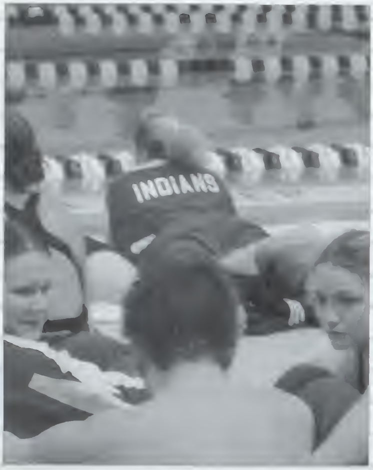
Ready to dive, junior Ashley Edmonds springs off the board. The swimmers and divers are one team, coached by teacher Miss Peda.



In anticipation for the race to begin, junior Kendal Krass prepares herself. The team's record this year was six and six.

Determined to beat the competition, Holli Piers passes up the other girls. This was Piers' first year on the swim team.

The boys and girls have some time to converse amongst themselves during the diving portion of each meet. "Coed meets are the best!" exclaimed junior Daniel Alonzo.



For some swimmers, correctly performing the breaststroke is one of their toughest feats. Junior Phillip Cowger, struggles to attain first place against Valparaiso Vikings, arguably one of Portage's biggest rivals.

First-rate guidance and quality suggestions from teammates are a must for every sport. Junior Kyle DeVaney, looks for both from sophomore Radley Alcantara after racing in the 100 Free. "Giving it long thought, I decided to swim after seeing how great I looked in a speedo," stated DeVaney.

The butterfly is one of the hardest techniques to execute. Sophomore Jacob Anderson, races in the first heat, advancing over the competition. Anderson was one of three captains on the 2004 team.

Individual goal beaten

OPPONENTS STILL NOT WEAKENED BY END OF THIS SEASON.

Despite not having an outstanding record, the 2003-2004 Boy's Swim team accomplished much throughout their season.

Their numerous achievements include, but are not limited to, a third place at sectionals and ten individuals along with two relay teams breaking through into the top twenty, all time, Indian record times.

"It was definitely a goal of mine to break into the top twenty this season and fortunately, I was able to break more than one of the previous records," stated sophomore Radley Alcantara.

Under coaches Ralph Mundt and Jonathon Zack, the boys were able to manage an overall record with four wins and seven losses in their dual meets. They also had a total of three wins with four losses in their DAC dual meets.

As in all high school sports, meets against conference teams are top priority and are held in high consideration when preparing to face off with the competition.

"The DAC meets are the most important of all, but for some reason all of us didn't bring our A game into every competition," said sophomore William Stoll.

Wishes go out to each of the guys for their tremendous efforts throughout the winter months.

Even though no one qualified to battle it out at the state meet, all but three of the boys will be returning to the varsity level for next season.

How would you describe
THE RELATIONSHIPS FORMED ON THE TEAM?

Well, some of us were close friends before we swam together in high school, but we did hang out and got to know each other a lot better from being around one other all the time!!!.

Geoffrey Kallmant, 2

There was a lot of camaraderie between the guys on the team We were all really tight. We all got along pretty well most of the time.

Jordan Bailey 10

With only one diver on the team this year junior, Josh Whalen had to pick up the pace. "It was definitely a lot harder and I knew I always had to give every dive my best," stated Whalen.

When Will The Pain Stop?

GYMNASTICS TEAM SUFFERS FROM A MULTITUDE OF INJURIES

With seemingly great ease, poised and graceful, sophomore Ashley Sandlin balances herself on the beam. Balancing takes a lot of concentration and practice, but Sandlin has spent man years of her life perfecting her talent.

By

Aching backs, sprained ankles, sore muscles, and much more. This is what the girls of the gymnastics team had to go through on a daily basis. If you were to go to a meet, you would see that many of the girls have braces on their knees, ankles, or other parts of their bodies.

"I got hurt early in the season and only got to compete for two meets," said sophomore Jennifer Smith. "I had to sit on the sidelines and watch all my friends compete."

The girls say that there was an average of at least two injuries per girl this season. These injuries happened during both competitions and during practice.

"I feel like if we practiced year round, like the other teams in our DAC, then we could be better than we already are," said sophomore Ashley Sandlin. She added, "Practicing five, sometimes six days a week from November until the beginning of March is very hard and time consuming."

Practices were two and a half hours long and were physically very demanding. These girls put in more into this sport than they get back. They worked hard and worked through pain and didn't get a lot of recognition from the school. Their sport is probably one of the most demanding sports at the school. On top of competing and practicing these girls also have to move all of the equipment after meets.

"Depending on the injury, everyone is expected to help out after the meets," said sophomore Alycia Laboy. "I don't think people realize how demanding this sport is. On the nights of meets the girls would start warming up at about 5:00 p.m. By the time they put all the equipment away they don't get to leave until about 10:00. These girls are truly extraordinary for they have mastered a very physically demanding sport.

It can be very hard to stay balanced, especially when preparing to do a filp on the narrow balance beam. Junior Ashley Lankford sets up carefully, trying not to fall off and loose points.

The song "Under The Sea," may not normally be thought of for a gymnastic routine, but sophomore Alison Horner proudly finishes floor with music from Disney's 'The Little Mermaid.' The gymnasts have the opportunity to select their own music based on their taste.

WHAT IS YOUR ULTIMATE GOAL AS A GYMNAST?

"I don't really have an ultimate goal, but I would really like to be able to go as far as I possibly can with the sport and improve as much as possible every year to be the best gymnast I can be."

Alycia Laboy 10

"My ultimate goal as a gymnast would have to be for me to continue my gymnastics career throughout college and see where I can go from there."

Jessica Mitchell 10

The balance beam is by far one of the most challenging elements of gymnastic competitions. Sophomore Lindsey Russ prepares by chalking her hands and feet while having a few laughs with her teammates.

The splits can be a hard move for some people, but doing splits on the balance beam can seem almost impossible. Sophomore Jessica Metz finishes off her routine by demonstrating her flexibility.

In the last moments of the match, senior Daniel Martinez glances up at the scoreboard to check the score as well as any time remaining. Time is a key component during a match because mere seconds could be used as an advantage to advance the score.

While in the starting position at the 103 weight class, sophomore Troy Hill steadily tries to escape from his opponents grip. Successfully, Hill managed to escape, giving him yet another point to dominate the score.

Doing Their Personal Best

FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME.

Once again the wrestlers pull off a respectful year with a good ending record. That seems to be the tradition set by each individual wrestler, to do their personal best for contributing to the finer goal of the team.

Throughout the years, wrestlers and the sport of wrestling has received some raw criticism about their techniques and their style of sport. But to anyone who has actually taken time out to experience or to witness the sport of wrestling, can tell you that there is a lot to wrestling than just rolling around on a mat.

All athletes have their own personal reason for loving or for joining wrestling.

"I most like how well trained our team is and the respect that our team has earned over and over again," said sophomore David Murray.

Wrestling can be extremely demanding. In fact, it can be somewhat dangerous if not taken seriously or not respected.

The need to make weight can be very strenuous on the young athletes. Abusing the power to gain or lose weight can lead to an untrained mind.

"The physical challenge of this sport is that wrestling is one of the toughest sports at the high school level. The mental challenge of wrestling is when we [wrestlers] have to make weight and can't eat when all of our friends are eating around us," stated junior Bradley Kemp.

with by for the team and the raw but to anyone or to that is on a reasons and the again," demanding if not taken to make athletes abusing lead to the is one of the requires a lot of when we when all states of all till end

Who do you feel are the leaders of the team?

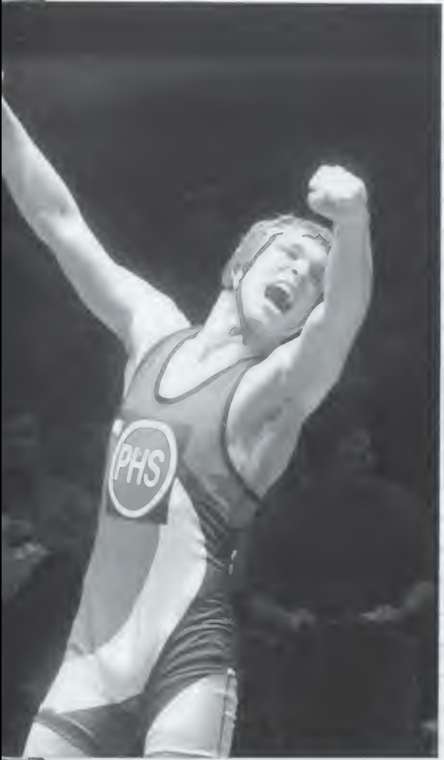
The leaders of the team are Darren Elkins, Josh Garza, Dan Martinez and Steve Jones. They're the ones we could depend on to win their matches whenever we needed a victory. They always came through for us.

Erik Rhein 10

I think that our leaders are Josh Garza and Darren Elkins. Both of them have been here for awhile and they know what they're doing when it comes to wrestling. Garza and Elkins are just dependable guys inside and outside of wrestling.

Alfredo Sanchez 11

With sheer determination and consentration, junior Mitchell Diamond, holds his opponent steady, trying to find an opening to score. It's extremely important for the wrestlers to know their opponents every move so that they are not used against them.



With hands raised in ultimate triumph, senior Darren Elkins shouts with victory after taking home the title of state champion. He ended his final season with an outstanding performance at the state championship.

Wrestling consists of as much mental strength as it does physical strength. Senior Joshua Garza, struggles with his opponent, concentrating on how to escape the position. Garza eventually finds his way out to end the match with a glorious victory.

As the match winds down to the final seconds, junior Daniel Zemlik, flips his opponent over in hopes to dominate the match. Many of the wrestlers can find themselves taking the lead in a match just by making one quick maneuver to gain extra points.

All throughout his first two years of high school, sophomore Chad Biddle, has worked hard to maintain his spot on Varsity. Wrestling in the 135 weight class, Biddle maintained that spot with ease and confidence.

Time commitment is a major requirement in bowling. Junior Jessica Boer practices her form for the big game the night before.

The Vast Connection

WITH THE GIRLS IN BOWLING

By Mirenda M[illegible]

Various people might not find the sport bowling to be that much of an extreme sport. Although, this year's bowling team has been working incredibly hard and giving their all for this year's season. For the 2004 year the bowling team made it to the semi-state and they also went to state.

"I am extremely happy with the way the season turned out. We went to semi-state and then to state. It was just a great season all around this year," states sophomore Tiffany Brunner.

The bowling team has a remarkable connection with one another. While one of the members of the team bowls, the other teammate cheers and roots for the current bowler that is up.

"I think I did a fair job on the team. Granted, I didn't get to play that much, but I was a good team cheerleader and that was extremely fun," Brunner said.

They all have such an immense bond with one another that they even got other teams angry with them.

"The match where we tried to make it to semi-state as a team was my favorite match. Everyone got along and laughed. We cheered so loud that the other teams kept getting pretty angry at us," said Brunner.

The team does not even consider there to be a team leader. They all look to one another for advice on their game, and they all seem to leave a mark in their own way for the team.

"We all seem to make a difference. Each and every one on the team made a difference one way or another. We really will miss our senior ladies next year," Brunner said.

some might orchestra never the that the occasional around in less. concerts, it is laughing this year opportunity to different things, to Chicago to having from Ball State orchestra new look "my trend memory year

IS THERE ANYONE ON THE TEAM THAT'S A LEADER?

"Yes, I would consider senior Dawn Oresik as a leader for our team because she bowled constantly throughout the year and she showed major leadership skills for the team

Jacqueline Slusher 12

"As far as leaders go for the bowling team, we didn't have just one. Once it was all three of our senior girls, but all of us seemed to make a difference."

Tiffany Brunner 10

Before their semi-state tournament, the team had to practice in order to do a better job. Senior Jacqueline Slusher bowled two good games the day of semi-state.

The bowling team always seems to cheer for their teammates. Sophomore Tiffany Brunner claps for her teammate while waiting her turn to bowl next.

The bowling team has considered the senior girls to be leaders. Senior Kimberly Gossett bowls a good game for the team at the practice before the sectionals that week.

Before the game begins, the team sits and socializes with one another to readily prepare themselves for the match ahead. Junior Jessica Boer, senior Jacqueline Slusher and sophomore Allison Gossett all sit and talk to one another before they play a game.

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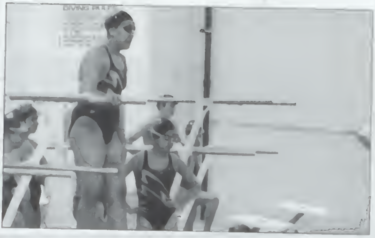

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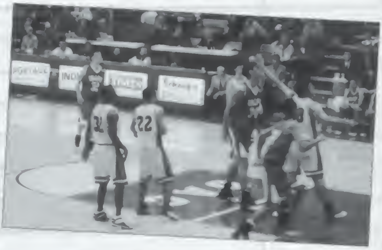

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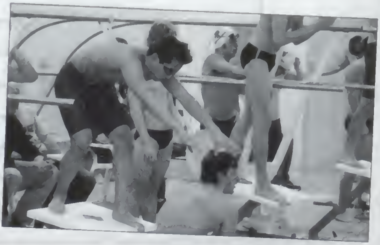

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In between innings, each team gets to warm up their teammates before the opposing team is up to bat. Senior Alexandra Hansen throws grounders to loosen up their the arms of her team.

With a runner on first, senior Heather Ramian turns the ball down the left hand side. Ramian drove the ball to left field, advancing the runner on first to second. Ramian has been apart of the softball program for four years now.

Every pitcher has their own technique at pitching, but if both feet do not start on the mound, it is an illegal pitch. Junior Tracy Markwell throws a first strike on pitch one.

While not on the field, each teammate acts as a cheerleader to support one another. Clapping helps the girls stay motivated and focused on the game.

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WHAT MAKES SOFTBALL WORTH THE WHILE?

"Being with the girls and playing with them is what makes softball worth the while."

Jennifer Furgye 11

"I like the challenge and I love hanging out with my friends while playing."

Rachel Wyatt, 9

DIAMONDS ARE STILL A GIRL'S BEST FRIEND

Varsity takes sectionals overcoming a year of disappointments, frustrations, and injuries

WILT-After two years the varsity softball team has got their groove back The girls were sectional champs and took first in the Warsaw and Scecina tournaments and were the Duneland Conference runner up From broken noses and hands to fluid in the knees, this season was definitely the year of injuries

Some injuries that were sustained were senior Anna Rivera's knee and senior Nicole McDonald's broken hand Rivera had injured her knee while sliding into third base which caused blood build up in the back of her knee cap

McDonald had broken her hand in four different places towards the end of the season against a re-match with Highland due to a runner jamming her hand into the ball while she was trying to tag her out at second

"The fact that I broke my hand didn't upset me because I knew I would recover from it, but what upset me the most was knowing that I was going to be unable to play My doctor knew how bad I wanted to play so he took my cast off early so I could only pinch run in the first regional game, but it was such a tight game that I never had the chance to get on base," explained McDonald.

The injury that had the team worried the most was starting pitcher freshman Meagan Gutierrez's broken nose. She was pitching and the opposing batter hit a line drive back at her The ball ricocheted off her glove and hit her nose

Gutierrez was rushed to the hospital and was told that she would need reconstructive surgery and would not be able to return for the following game and possibly more. The starting pitcher was back in just a matter of two weeks

"After an injury like that you would think she would be scared to play again, but she was not even the least bit timid to go back out on to the field," explained junior T[illegible] Harrington

Despite the many injuries, the girls really pulled through this season The varsity team consisted of seven seniors Amanda Massow, Nicole McDonald, Alexandra Hansen, Kelly Higgins, Heather Ramian, Anna Rivera, and Emily Safstrom

"We had major leadership this year They taught us younger classman so much and we are proud of all of them," explained sophomore Jennifer Furgye

The junior varsity team did an outstanding job this season as well

"We hope to follow the varsity's footsteps, but take the team to the next level," explained freshman Rachel Wyatt

This year the softball team's motto was "Make it Happen" and for the most part they did.

"We had an outstanding year and I am really proud of what we had accomplished this year," explained sophomore Colleen Scott

The varsity over all finished with a record of 26-4-2. The JV team ended with a record of 20-7 and won first in the Highland JV tournament

As senior Nicole McDonald makes the play at second, she turns for a double at first. McDonald also plays shortstop.

The throw down from the catcher to second, was saved by sophomore Samantha Meints. The objective is to throw the ball on the right hand side of the bag to tag out the runner if they are standing second.

Superstitions Hit the Field

VARSITY TEAM PROVES TO BE SUPERSTITIOUS ON & OFF THE FIELD

Though the 2004 varsity baseball team had a rocky season that consisted of magnificent highs and belittling lows it was a never ending ride for Portage fans. If only every person in the bleachers knew how superstitious these boys were it would lead them to watching their every move. Whom do they get these superstitions from one may ask. Well if you can believe it the coaches are just as superstitious as the players.

Junior Andrew Dranchak simply stated, "A few of the guys and I get dressed in the same order for every game. Starting with our jerseys and ending with the tying of our cleats." Duranchak hopes his newly started tradition will continue for years to come.

Boys varsity baseball coach Mr. Reid Amones said, "I never make the lineup card out until school is over, for the fear that someone may be absent, had to go home sick, or couldn't play for some other reason."

Speaking of the batting line up some players are just as cautious of the lineup.

Junior Milton Rivera, revealed, "Sophomore Shane Dixon and I usually are lined - up to bat before or after one another. If you watch closely we always warm up hitting in the dug out then switch bats only after knocking them together so we each have good luck."

Assistant Coach Robert Kania replied, "I am very superstitious. I always wear a 'keep running' tee shirt under my uniform for every game of the season home and away. I also can always be found eating bagels in between innings in the dug out."

The varsity baseball players are just as superstitious as their coaches. Next time the Indians play, don't just watch them, analyze their every move and motion. The possibilities of seeing these superstitions may be revealed only on the field.

In any other sport, most players carry on a tradition or possibly a superstition. The volleyball team along with the softball team puts their feet in the air and touches any screw on the bus when traveling over a railroad track for good luck. There are endless possibilities for any athlete to carry on any type of superstitious tradition. Most only hope that their inventiveness will carry on through seasons to come.

While maintaining his cool at bat, sophomore Shane Dixon wistfully swings. Short of hitting the ball, it crosses the plate and the umpire calls a strike.

Focused, senior Zachery Bryan puts stress on his quads. After months of strenuous practice and lifting his muscles help him maintain proper stance as he waits.

WHAT EXPECTATIONS DO YOU HAVE FOR THE SEASON?

"My only expectation for this season is to make an impact on varsity as a sophomore, while proving to my fellow teammates that I am able to be a leader in the future."

Shane Dixon 10

"This year, we have a great team that proves to have a lot of potential. I know if we play together we are fully capable of getting the job done. I expect us to go far this season, hopefully we will play well all the way into sectionals."

John Camery 12

All eyes are on senior pitcher Jonathan Rush as he throws a final pitch, ending a long second inning. The Indians hold their lead against the Bulldogs in part to Rush's ability.

Excitement grows in the bleachers as junior Brian Blanton bats as senior Cory Sly attempts to steal first. Just as the pitcher throws the ball back to first, Sly safely dives.

The chant "Get your hands up" is heard as varsity players surround Coaches Amones and Kania. After their pow wow on the sidelines, the boys head to the field energized and ready.

While trying his hand at pitching, young, but skilled sophomore Jeffrey Disney is sent in to relieve senior pitcher Jonathan Rush. Disney proves that even though he is young he can hold down the mound as he strikes the batter out and sends the Indians out of the field and back to bat.

After catching, freshman Ross Bailey watches the opposing team take the field. The catcher's job is to relay the coaches calls from the dugout to the pitcher at the mound without any errors.

Ready and heading to bat, primed sophomore Anthony Pennington gets a few last pointers from Coach Pirowski as they walk down the edge of the dusty dugout toward the home plate. Pennington, in addition to being one of JV's second baseman, is also an Indian football player, so he is accustomed to following the game plan from his coaches. He tries to execute the tips for the benefit of his team.

The freshmen resort to sitting on buckets when the bench is occupied. Kevin Ramian watches his teammates after taking his turn up at bat.

As freshman Lawrence Vaughan III pitches, the second baseman anticipates the next play. Vaughan has been playing for many years.

Looking To Score More

Season of '04 Pushes Young Players

SEFCIK & Wilt· Most times in sports the junior varsity team, takes centerfield while the varsity team takes center stage.

"Feeling like we're second best only makes us want to push ourselves harder and to win every game that comes our way. If we keep pushing ourselves we only hope to become the varsity team but with more skills and talent in the near future," explained freshman Lawrence Vaughn III.

Some of the teammates are already thinking about next year and what they should do personally and as a whole to prepare for next season.

"We need to work hard in the off-season and no matter what we all need to give a hundred percent," stated freshman Joseph Cole.

In any sport and at any school, the teams always have their rivals. The junior varsity team's biggest rival was Crown Point.

"I would have to say that Crown Point was our biggest rival because our coach transferred from there and we tried to show that we could beat them," explained Cole.

Chesterton and Valparaiso seem to be the biggest rivals for the freshmen team.

"Valpo has always been a rival to our entire athletics program, but I would have to say that Chesterton was for us this year because we lost twice to them and only won once," stated sophomore Michael Sinkus.

A unique trait about the individual players on the team is their pregame rituals. These rituals include sophomore Marcus Dietz's continuously listens to Metallica before games; freshmen Ross Bailey and Ray Peek's naps on the bus on all away games, and lastly Coles continual playing of the popular game MVP Baseball 2004 on evening nights before game day.

"There's no place like home" when it comes to playing on our fields. Any of the teammates would rather prefer playing on our Indian fields than any other school's fields.

"My favorite place to compete is at our home field because it gives me a sense of comfort and it makes me relax more," explained Cole.

These teammates are the future varsity players that are willing to work hard to succeed in every season played. They are willing to look at every practice and game as a learning opportunity.

WHAT TEAM WAS THE BIGGEST RIVAL THIS SEASON?

"Our biggest rival was Crown Point. I say that because our junior varsity coach transferred from Crown Point to here. We tried to show that we could beat that team especially."

Joseph Cole, 10

"For me, it was Chesterton because we had lost to them twice during the regular season."

Michael Sinkus, 10

"Really, it has to be Valparaiso. I've honestly never liked them, so for me it has to be the Vikings."

Raymond Peek, 9

With a monstrous stride, tone sophomore Michael Burke very ferociously pitches the ball. Burke is one of four pitchers that the JV team utilized.

Ready, about to swing, sophomore Mark Dietz realizes that the ball is outside and pulls back. Dietz's good judgement of the ball's placement comes from playing the position of catcher.

As one would expect eager freshman Anthony Bohling keeps his eye on the ball as it speeds at him toward home plate and the catcher's mitt. It takes a great level of skill, hand-eye coordination, and extreme focus to bat. Accurate batters help the team by further advancing runners to the bases.

With disappointment in her match, junior Jacqueline Barnum throws the racket over her head and walks frustratingly off the court. Barnum, very active in school, is also involved in soccer, student council, and National Honor Society, among others.

After years of practice and hard work to master the sport, senior Priscilla Ramos very powerfully follows through with her swing at the tennis ball. Not only muscular from tennis, but also from playing volleyball Ramos was really an tremendous asset to the team that will be missed in the future.

Photo By: Alisha Lira

Photo By: Elizabeth Sefcik

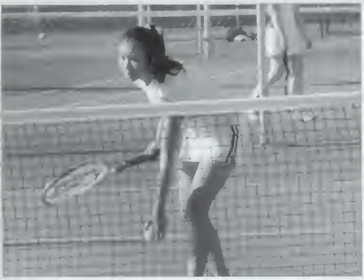


Photo By: Alisha Lira

Ready to begin the match, senior Karen Villacin prepares to hit the ball over the net during practice. Villacin was a member of the varsity team this year and competed in many doubles competitions.

Mid-serve, senior Nichole Wallingford eagerly starts the match. Wallingford was one of the five senior members on the team this year that helped lead and guide the underclassmen.

Photo By: Alisha Lira

One of the most annoying parts of playing tennis is chasing after such a tiny ball. Making her way toward the net, rookie and freshman Trisha Berryman retrieves the ball. Berryman gets ready to completely crush her competition as she prepares.

track and any type of down to earth is baskets gloves are in so make it possible I think tennis is one under certain circum- may in time come to be one of the best

HOW ARE YOU GETTING READY FOR SECTIONALS?

"To prepare for sectionals, we are practicing and playing our regular season games."

Katelyn Stanfield 9

"We are practicing super hard and putting our noses to the grindstone to prepare for sectionals"

Kassandra Mulson 9

Fighting Through Challenges

GIRLS BECOME STRONGER IN THE END, PREP FOR TENNIS' FUTURE

Though the girls tennis team undoubtedly had a rocky season this year, they did their best and finished up with a final record of five and ten in their regular season and a record of zero and seven in the Duneland Athletic Conference.

The majority of the team members this year were freshmen, some of which had never played the sport before. This eminently proved to become one of the team's largest challenges early in their season.

"I believe the biggest challenge for myself this year was keeping focused all season because it is easy to get tired," explains freshman Kassandra Mulzon.

Even throughout all the challenges these girls experienced during the season, they did not prevent the team from having fun and playing their hardest.

Instructed this year by head coach Jessica Hufford and assistant coach Carrie Biggs, the girls practiced hard and played to the best of their ability. The team utilized practices by running drills and using different methods to improve and maintain their skills.

Given that sectionals immediately followed the team's regular season, the girls had to prepare for the competition while finishing out their regular games. In order to get ready for the sectional game the girls continued with practices and worked even more meticulously than usual.

Despite the fact that the sectional game did not go exactly the way the team had planned the girls still gave it all they could and played tough all the way to the end. Unfortunately the team completed the season by losing to Chesterton, who was a without a doubt the toughest team the girls faced throughout the entire year

Putting aside winning and losing being a part of the girls tennis team is more than just playing game after game and attending all the practices. In the beginning of the season the girls get the opportunity to meet new people and form friendships. During the year the friendships grow stronger since the girls are together so often. They learn to support one and other and focus on more than just winning matches.

"The best part of being a member of the tennis team is being able to be a part of something and meeting new people, not just meeting the other girls on the team but girls from other schools also," states freshman Kathryn Stanfield.

With everything being said and done the girls, did an outstanding job this season. The girls took on many talented teams during their season and though not all the games turned out as planned each team member learned a lot and greatly improved. With the team being relatively young, clearly next season these girls will become a force in whom to be reckoned with.

Photo By: Alisha Lira

Photo By: Elizabeth Sefcik

Photo By: Alisha Lira

While trying to watch her teammate, senior Cassandra Vandergriff helps out by changing the score. This year the team went 5-0 in their regular season and 0-7 in the DAC.

Before one of the last home meets, the entire team huddles together to pump up one another and get ready. There were five senior members on the team this year that lead the girls.

'Putting' Forth Effort

MAKES FOR A GREAT SEASON

Staying On The Track

Girls track finds their own talent

LIRA- The 2004 girls track team was a successful one that consisted of some of the most athletically determined girls at Portage High School. Each member individually came together to form a great team. It is a very physically demanding sport that requires a lot of practice to be successful. The track members started the season off fresh knowing the dedication involved and approached it with a confident manner. Due to their positive attitude, the girls showed that 'staying on track', in more ways than one, held significant importance to them.

The track members agree that there is much more to track that meets the eye. Whether their event is shot put, pole vault, hurdles, or relay each sport has its difficult elements. The girls like the fact that track is mostly a individual sport, that they alone are ultimately in control. However, they also recognize that they are supported, guided, and helped along the way by their teammates and coaches.

Every track member gets their inspiration for victory from different and unique sources, including shot putter and discus thrower, senior Amy Ryan.

Ryan explains, "Personally, I would have to say that my inspiration comes from my friend Ray who was a boxer and who was also diagnosed with cancer recently. I really look up to him because doctors told him he wasn't going to be able to step into a boxing ring ever again. Now he is stronger than ever and is even teaching others how to box! So basically, he beat all odds. Ray always tells me to be a 'fighter' and to never give up and that's exactly what I try to do."

Everyone loves the adrenaline rush that comes from the crowd when they cheer on the team. The girls agree with Ryan who explains how it feels to have everyone cheering you on,

"It is definitely one of the best feelings in the world is to know that you have many people who support you and it makes them want to strive higher to reach and overcome personal goal. It shows great school spirit to have your teachers, coaches, peers, and parents cheer us on."

Not only does the cheering come from the crowd, but also from each member of the girls track team. Throughout every meet this year, the girl track team members are very supportive of one another by cheering on their teammates. The girls agree that, as a whole, the girls on the team are very encouraging and supportive.

Overall, this year the girls track team has had a respectable season. They have qualified for sectional and regional meets. Some exceptional few even qualified for state including sophomore Kristin Meyers and senior Krystal Rigoni.

Although some qualified for state, most came up short, including sophomore Christina Blackwell. Blackwell came within hundredths of a second short of qualifying for state.

"I went up against some tough competition," explains Blackwell. "I was also under a lot of pressure so I practiced so hard to make it to state. I can't say I wasn't disappointed when I was so close to qualifying because I truly gave it my all.

Disappointed with the outcome of her performance at the regional meet this year, Blackwell continues to run throughout the year to prepare for the following season.

"Don't worry," Blackwell assures with a little chuckle, "next year I'll definitely make it to state!"

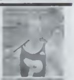
The girls came together with their talent, support, and dedication to strive toward their goal. The girls showed that 'Staying on track' not only helped them develop into better athletes but also better people. Utilizing the skills they learned both physically and mentally made for an awesome and inspiring season. Portage High School can only yearn that next years team can be just as a superb of a team as the 2004 girl track team.

Each girl on track has to maintain their progress for the team and the school. At practice, the girls practice their lunging for the next meet that they will encounter. During each practice, the girls work for their perfection. Track is a personal goal for the majority of the girls track team members. Each member has their own way of finishing their talent with running.

In mid jump, senior Krystal Rigoni clears the bar. Along with track, Krystal has also been involved with basketball throughout her high school career.

With the pressure of her teammates looking on, junior Tasha Papachronis establishes a balanced stance to insure that the discus goes a far distance.

WHATS IT LIKE TO RUN
WITH YOUR SISTER?



I absolutly love running and training with my sister. She pushes me so much and makes me a better runner. I don't know where I'd be if we didn't run together

Megan Meyers 12

I love running with Megan. It's really fun to run with her because she is like my very best friend. I'm really going to miss her next year when she graduates.

Kristen Meyers, 10

Val is one of my best friends, so running with her is always fun. We run the at the same pace and she is always very encoraging

Kara Lane 12

Running with Kara is great. We have so much fun when we practice together and I'm going to miss that next year

Valarie Lane 9

Track can be a very stressful sport. Preparing for their start, the Portage Girls Track team sets up for the start of the run.

Team Busted Out Big Ones

ATHLETES ALSO SHINED IN THEIR VARIOUS INDIVIDUAL EVENTS.

By: Tori L. Remington

Some success rained down upon our boy's track team throughout the entirety of the season. The boys showed off their immense skills in individual and team events adding just a bit more pride to everyone sporting the Indian name.

As always the season kicked off with some chilly weather and the not so popular rainy practice days. However, during the conditioning and earlier practice stages a lot of young talent was distinguished amongst the many athletes.

Five of the six athletes that advanced to the state meet were underclassman, led by senior Glen Batista who has been running all four years of his high school career. The boy's team took an overall fourth place in the regional with a total of fifty points earned. Regionals were held at our home field, but Valparaiso hosted it due to their own field's reconstruction. Before earning fifty points, they took away the gold at sectionals which was also held in Indian territory with a total of 137.50 points, dominating over all of the competition present throughout the evening.

"We just went all out, full throttle, at regionals and for some it wasn't enough, but others were outdone unfortunately." Stated junior Jonathan Kornacki after advancing to state in the discus throw by hurling the metal disc a total of 149 feet.

There were also Indians competing in the four by eight hundred relay, one hundred meter dash, and the two hundred meter dash.

It was proven this year that anything can be accomplished, whether competing individually, on a team or even in two different events. It can be done.

"So many people broke out this year and stunned a lot of us. Who knew the younger kids would get as far as they did, but we are all happy for them and supported them the whole way there." Stated junior, Steven Hojnacki. "It was great watching them compete and congrats to all of them and we all hope that they will only get better the following year."

As one rival runner is on his tail, sophomore Benjamin Kerezman, sprints ahead trying to stay in front and lead the rest of his team to an overall win.

One of the most important things to do before an actual race is to stretch and warm up. Senior, Alexander Clark practices hurdling to prepare himself before his race.

One of the most popular activities in track is the discus and the shot put. Junior Jonathan Kornacki shows how to throw the discus the proper way.

In mid air, junior Joshua Whalen shows off his form during the meet's long jump competition. Whalen, one of the many fierce competitors at Portage, is also a diver for the boy's swim team.

After making it past sectionals, junior Jonathan Rooney competes at regionals. Unfortunately, Rooney, who was expected to place did not make it to the state meet.

WHAT MOTIVATES YOU FOR EVERY MEET?

My grandpa and my uncle motivate me They were always saying I was meant for greatness They died when I was young so every jump and every win is in their memory

Steven Hojnacki | 1

Athletes taking time out to stretch is a very important aspect of every sport. Before he attempts the high jump, sophomore Andrew Stills lunges so he does not receive any injuries.

While concentrating on how he will take his next few steps, sophomore Bryan Gilbert leaps over one of many in his race. Gilbert was one of very few hurdlers for the team during this season.

Cheering Up Controversy

SQUAD SPORTS NEW UNIFORMS THAT DRAW EXTRA ATTENTION

Rebuilding is not just a word to the Portage High School cheerleaders anymore. Within this year they have gotten two new coaches, whom both were cheerleaders in their past high school careers.

"This year definitely has not been as challenging as it was in the past. Due to the very young team this year with a lot of inexperienced girls, we weren't able to go to Nationals. It has been really upsetting, but I've learned to deal with everything 'new,'" said junior Trisha Sabocik.

Not only was it difficult for the girls to cope with new coaches, but they also got new uniforms. The traditional cheerleading uniform consists of all red with a little black and white except this year everything was different. The uniforms became all black with a little red and white.

Not everyone thought this was a good idea, stating that black was not a school color. This definitely did not set well with the administrators; they felt that in the past black was not a major school color and shouldn't be altered.

"The uniform as far as the color should be red and white because of the traditional school color. I understand that black is very professional and sleek looking, but should only be used as an accent," said Mr. Floyd.

Assistant Principal S. Eric Floyd was under the impression that the uniforms were red. " I was given a black and white picture of the uniform with the purchase order and was told the uniform was all red with black accents. I get purchase orders all the time and didn't feel the need to look over it; I figured the advisors would have taken care of it before it got to me."

Even though this probably wasn't the best way to go about getting new uniforms the cheerleaders got exactly what they wanted. Most people consider this old news, however this was a much-discussed topic this year.

Also due to so many girls either quitting or getting injured, try-outs were held for a second time to resize the squad. This brought out a number of girls who were willing to fulfill the open positions. After the try-outs everything seemed to be falling into place.

Although there have been new uniforms, new coaches, and a young team; this squad has stuck together like glue. These girls are strong willed and determined to overcome any obstacles they may face in the future.

Sharp movements and loud voices are not all it takes to be a cheerleader. Tumbling is a major part of the cheerleading world that is a very challenging skill to master. Expert tumbler, junior Trisha Sabocik does a back tuck at Midwest competition which was held February 15, 2004, at Portage High School.

The main focus of most stunts is the flyer, or the cheerleader in the air, but that is definitely not all a stunt consists of. Lifters, or the base of the mount, are the building block to a safe lift. Trust between lifters and their flyer is necessary to have a successful stunt that really wows the crowd.

This year the cheerleading squad tried more difficult and challenging stunts. Extremely flexible junior Trisha Sabocik, does a back bend, while fellow varsity member sophomore Megan Tiernan triumphantly stands upon Sabocik's stomach. Strong abdominal muscles are a must for the girls on the team.

At the fall pep rally, excited freshman Bianca Angarola cheers with the rest of her squad to the ever popular "Go Big Red." Angarola holds the 'BIG' sign as everyone joins in the cheer, hoping to motivate the boys on to victory against the Crown Point Bulldogs for the following day's game.

The cheerleaders show their skills at halftime of a home basketball game. They bring smiles to the crowd with their cheers and acrobatic stunts.

At the 2nd annual student faculty basketball game sophomore Jessica Metz shows her enthusiasm as she cheers on her fellow classmates. Even though the students ended up loosing to the faculty by one point, the squad kept cheering, not showing their disappointment for the players or fans.

While recognizing the football players at the pep rally, the girls are right there on the side cheering for them. Poms are required to attend many different events.

The poms participate not only in fall but also during the winter seasons. The girls strut their stuff during a performance in halftime to please the crowd.

Young Team Still Does It

New members won't hold them back

ANDREWS-For the past two years, Portage High School's Indianettes have been invited to attend the national Ameridance dance competition in Orlando Florida. Those same two years have been huge successes, bringing home myriads of trophies, medals, and awards. This year was no exception, as is evidenced by placing second, fourth, and fifth in Poms, Jazz, and Funk respectively.

Despite all of these successes and victories abroad, problems from within corrupted the dance team and stifled their potential as they attempted to deal with the struggles resulting from the youth and inexperience of members.

"Working with younger members was difficult because we had to start from scratch," recalled senior Samantha Lira.

Starting from scratch tested the teams strength so it made the team stronger and more understanding.

In halftime the poms entertain the audience while the basketball team takes their break. Sophomore Jessica Hodges leads the team to pump up the crowd.

The JV poms team pumps up the crowd during a football game. The team was very young this year, but they still did an outstanding job and pulled it together.

On 'Senior Night', all senior poms are recognized for their alms to the Indianettes. Senior Whitney Ferguson stands, in uniform, beside her proud mother that night.

WHAT MAKES POMS WORTH THE WHILE?

Even though making it through practices can be really difficult sometimes, it's usually really fun dancing with the other girls. It's awesome to see all the smiling faces of people in the crowd

Jessica Hodges 10

I don't really like practicing, but who does? It's a necessary evil for the rush of being in front of so many people during a football or basketball game

Ashley Jalovecky 11

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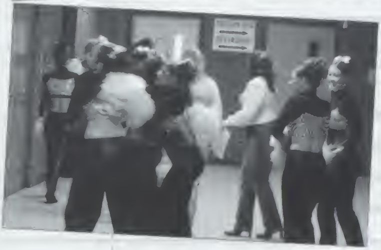

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Class Pics

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Class of 2004

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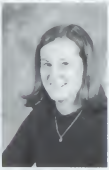

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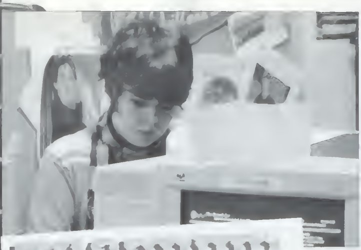

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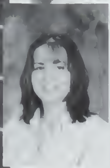
What Makes You Different?

"I'm not from here, I was born in Fiji Island and I am Indian. I have a lot of culture in me that makes up half of my personality." *Nikita Patel*

"I am my own person. I don't look at my peers for answers or for the way I should act or dress. I am just me; I don't follow the crowd and thats what makes me different. *Crystal Espinosa*

"My appearance, religion, behavior, sense of humor, and my attitude towards life." *Jaspreet Chahal*



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WI[illegible] [illegible] friends at graduation [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] National [illegible] retreat.

FULL of [illegible] auditorium before [illegible] the football field for commencement. [illegible] to some extent, [illegible] are lucky to [illegible] next to each other for the [illegible]

AFTER a [illegible] accident, [illegible] [illegible] to receive his diploma. [illegible] was [illegible] and [illegible] for [illegible] graduat[illegible], [illegible] the f[illegible] p[illegible]n. The accident [illegible] have ma[illegible] [illegible] that [illegible] w[illegible] a [illegible] perspective [illegible] life [illegible] be, rea[illegible] that [illegible] [illegible]y take [illegible] one [illegible] to change your life forever.

If you could re-do high school what would you do?

Senior, Artemio DelReal

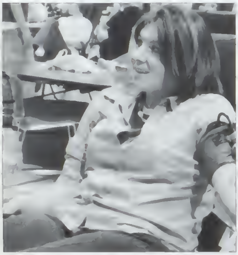
"I would not dress up as much, and dress scrubby more often. It's more comfortable."

"There is nothing that I would do differently. I've done everything the best I can."

Senior, Dane Klakoski

NERVOUS about [illegible] [illegible] time, [illegible] d[illegible] tract [illegible] a fellow student that also holds [illegible] free [illegible] a[illegible] attempt to [illegible] her, the Red Cross [illegible] a blood drive at the high school [illegible] year, [illegible] at the students w[illegible] continue to donate the rest of their lives, helping save lives.

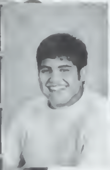
WITH all eye[illegible] the speaker, graduate[illegible] a[illegible] of [illegible] the [illegible] awaited and hard earned diploma. After [illegible] [illegible] during the speak[illegible] [illegible] with the [illegible] the [illegible] back to the building after commencement [illegible] to actually receive their diplomas.



[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] R. [illegible]
Chamber [illegible], [illegible], [illegible] W[illegible] [illegible], Chamber Orchestra Student [illegible] 9
[illegible]
[illegible] 9, [illegible] 9 [illegible], B[illegible]A [illegible]
[illegible] K[illegible]

[illegible] K[illegible]met
K[illegible]
Academic Hall of Fame
[illegible] Krabbenhoft
[illegible] [illegible]aboy
[illegible] 9-[illegible], A[illegible], [illegible] Band [illegible], [illegible] Orchestra 9, [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], Academic Hall of Fame
[illegible] [illegible]amp[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] 9-[illegible], A[illegible], Concert [illegible] 9, [illegible], Natural Helpers [illegible], [illegible], [illegible] Secretary [illegible], Track [illegible] Captain [illegible], 2004 [illegible], Academic Hall of Fame
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] R. [illegible]
[illegible], Track 9-[illegible], Natural Helpers [illegible], [illegible], Student Council 9-12, Winter [illegible] Court [illegible], Prom Court
[illegible]
[illegible], A[illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible] Treasurer [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible], Track 9 [illegible], A[illegible] Band [illegible], [illegible] Orchestra 9, Fall Play [illegible], OYM [illegible], Qui[illegible] [illegible], [illegible], Write[illegible] [illegible]



[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible], Track [illegible], [illegible], [illegible] [illegible], Track [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible] of Fame
Andrew R. [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible], [illegible], [illegible],
Concert Orchestra 9, [illegible] [illegible],
[illegible], [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Martinez
[illegible], BPA 1[illegible], Concert Orchestra [illegible],
[illegible], [illegible], [illegible],
Symphonic Strings [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Martinez
Art [illegible], Concert Band 9-[illegible], [illegible],
[illegible] Book [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible], [illegible], Track 9-[illegible],
[illegible] Peer Tutors [illegible], Speech Team [illegible], Student
Council Representative [illegible]
Amanda R. [illegible]
[illegible] 9-[illegible], Softball 9-[illegible], [illegible],
[illegible] Leadership Award [illegible], Softball All
A[illegible]

ALL about flex[illegible], [redacted] [illegible] [illegible] where [illegible] to [illegible] the [illegible] judges attention [illegible] a few ladies' eyes, [redacted] shows [illegible] biceps.

DOWN [illegible] the [illegible] focused [illegible] the music, [redacted] waits for her [illegible] move. [illegible] the [illegible] dance was a mix of several popular rap [illegible] as well as a [illegible] that really made for an [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] were [illegible] the mix, [illegible] September, [illegible] definitely [illegible].

WITH [illegible] raised, [illegible] the excitement [illegible] [redacted] leave the [illegible] area [illegible]. [illegible] [redacted], one of [illegible]9 [illegible] graduates, [illegible] up for the occasion by wearing a tuxedo [illegible] [illegible].

VERY active ... was the only student ... to ever be president of the ... for two years. ... was awarded the R... Scholarship and ... Summer ...

BRAINY STUDENTS ... Wilcox ... to participate ... academic competition ... please the ... Both exceptional ... received the ... scholarship ... numerous ...

NOTICE was ... a ... competed in junior ... talent ... could be seen ... basketball games as one of the six murderers ... featured ...

... M...
... R. Mathews
... Orchestra 9, ... Orchestra 9-12, Spring Musical 9-12
... Mc...e
... R. M...
... M. M...
... 9-12, Softball 9-12, ... 9-12, ... Natural Helpers 12, ... Student Council 12, ... Conference ... Captain 12, ...
... R. M...
... Track 12, Concert Band 9-12, ... Play ..., Peer Tutor ..., Musical 12, Thespian ...
... M. M...
Basketball 9-12, Softball 9-12, Concert ...
... M...
A... M...
... M...e
... R. M...
Football 9, ... 12, ... 12, Power ... Award, R.W. ... Academic Hall of Fame
... A. M...
... Band 9-12, Concert Band 12, Play ..., Pep Band ..., ... 9-12, Symphonic Band 12, Thespian 9-12, Academic Hall of Fame
Bertha M...e
Swimming 9-12, ... Peer Tutor 12, ...
... M...
Student Council ..., Campus Life ..., Boy Scouts 9-12
... M...
Track 9-12, ... Peer Tutor ..., Student Council 12, Academic Hall of Fame
Andria ... M...
Swimming & ... Play 12, ... 12, Peer Tutor 12, ... Vice President ...
... M...
... M...
... 9-12, ... 9, ... 12, ... Captain 12, Academic Hall of Fame
... M...
... 9-12, ... 12, Academic Hall of Fame
... M...off
... 12, Play 12, ... Natural Helpers 12, ... Student Council 9-12, Thespian 12, ... Academic Hall of Fame

[illegible] R. [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible], [illegible]
Academic Hall of Fame
[illegible] A. [illegible]
Basketball 9, [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible]
BPA [illegible], Bowling 9, [illegible]
[illegible]
Basketball [illegible], [illegible]
Basketball Captain [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Owen
Softball 9 [illegible], Swimming 9, Volleyball [illegible]
[illegible] Owen
[illegible] 9, [illegible]
[illegible], Basketball [illegible]
[illegible] Parke

[illegible] Park
[illegible]
Academic Hall of Fame
Mark [illegible] Patte[illegible]
[illegible]
Basketball 9 [illegible], [illegible],
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible], Bowl 9, [illegible]

Team teaching started for frosh

PORTAGE TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS START USING GYM UNIFORMS

2000

43rd President, George Bush, was sworn in on Jan 20th.

2001

Dale Earnhardt dies in crash @ Daytona

PUMPED [illegible] the football team [illegible] excited about the [illegible] game. [illegible] had an [illegible] season, playing all the way [illegible].

ABOUT [illegible] dance, [illegible] together [illegible] that [illegible] powderpuff football, but [illegible], like [illegible] and [illegible], were not allowed to participate in the game.

AFTER [illegible] makeup, [illegible] on a [illegible] mate's face [illegible] makeup [illegible] the game.

[illegible] P[illegible]
A[illegible] Pa[illegible]e
[illegible], [illegible]
[illegible]
Ya[illegible]
[illegible] . [illegible]e[illegible]
[illegible] D. [illegible]ew[illegible]k
Academic Hall of Fame
[illegible]ep[illegible] a P[illegible]a[illegible]

A[illegible] . P[illegible]ter
[illegible]e[illegible]ey [illegible] .
A[illegible], [illegible]e[illegible], [illegible]
Peer Tutor[illegible], Marching Band [illegible], [illegible]
[illegible]0, S[illegible]e[illegible], [illegible] Ba[illegible],
Academic Hall of Fame
[illegible]a [illegible]. [illegible]e[illegible]t
[illegible]leerea[illegible], [illegible]
[illegible]e[illegible] . P[illegible]kett
Sarah [illegible]. Ra[illegible]n
Basketball 9-[illegible], [illegible]of [illegible], [illegible], R
Pe[illegible] Tutor[illegible], [illegible]tura[illegible], Student
[illegible], [illegible], [illegible] [illegible]epe[illegible] Staff [illegible]

[illegible] A. Ra[illegible]as[illegible]
Academic Hall of Fame
[illegible]a [illegible]. Ram[illegible]
Tennis 9-[illegible], Volleyball 9-[illegible], Concert Orchestra
[illegible], [illegible], Symphonic [illegible]
[illegible]e [illegible]. Ra[illegible]e
[illegible]f [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible]
Leade[illegible], Academic Hall of Fame
Jacque[illegible]y[illegible] . Ree[illegible]e[illegible]
K[illegible]t[illegible] [illegible]. Re[illegible]e[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible]. R[illegible]
[illegible]a 9-[illegible], [illegible] 9-[illegible], [illegible]
[illegible]ta R[illegible]
Basketba[illegible] 9-[illegible], Track & Field [illegible], [illegible]
[illegible]
A[illegible]a M. R[illegible]e[illegible]a
Basketba[illegible] 9-[illegible], [illegible]f 9-[illegible], Softba[illegible] 9-[illegible], R
Peer [illegible], [illegible], [illegible]
[illegible]t [illegible], [illegible]t [illegible],
Academic Hall of Fame
[illegible]zabeth [illegible]. Robb[illegible]
Softball 9-[illegible], [illegible]e[illegible] 9, R[illegible] Peer [illegible]
[illegible], P[illegible]w [illegible], Academic Hall of Fame
[illegible]e[illegible] R[illegible]e

JUST [illegible] the [illegible], Ramos, [illegible], and [illegible] Stewart, [illegible] the [illegible] court practicing and have become close friends over the years.

ENERGIZED, [illegible] the audience a real [illegible], [illegible] put [illegible] a [illegible], and [illegible] a [illegible] idea [illegible] the [illegible] People, [illegible] that they [illegible] the "Y[illegible]A," so the boys helped create an accurate [illegible] of the [illegible] group for [illegible] generation through their [illegible] performance.

PHS Theather Productions

E.R. '01

'00 Fiddler On the Roof

Welcome to the Monkey House '03

'02 Footloose

The Down Staircase '02

M*A*S*H '04

'05 The King & I

'05 CHICAGO

SINCE [illegible] Society sponsors the blood drive each year, member [redacted] was able to [illegible] a few [illegible] a [illegible]; however, brave [redacted] [illegible] to give blood. [redacted] was a [illegible] of the [illegible] was [illegible] started about the needle, but gave blood even though she was a bit afraid. To encourage students to give blood this year the Red [illegible] gave away [illegible] and stickers stating, "Kiss me, gave blood."

LOUD and [illegible] the [illegible] screaming at the pep rally to beat the [illegible] with the [illegible] football [illegible] Brandon [redacted] [illegible] near the beat [illegible] at [illegible].

[illegible]
[illegible] R. Rogers [illegible]
Tamra A. Rudziewski
[illegible] R. Rue[illegible]
Margaret K. [illegible]
Soccer 9-[illegible], [illegible], Student Council [illegible], [illegible] Homecoming Court [illegible], [illegible] Captain [illegible], Student Council Secretary [illegible],

[illegible] [illegible]. [illegible]af[illegible]
Basketball 9-[illegible], Soccer 9-[illegible], Softball 9-[illegible], Natural Helpers [illegible], [illegible] Award
Gregory Sakiaczynski
[illegible], [illegible] Club [illegible], V[illegible] Vice President [illegible]
[illegible]ty Sa[illegible]e
OY[illegible] Court [illegible]
A[illegible] M. Sa[illegible]
[illegible] Peer Tutor [illegible], Academic Hall of Fame
Stanley [illegible]
Football 9-[illegible], Concert Band 9-10, Pep Band 9,-[illegible]
Stefanie [illegible]. [illegible]atka
A[illegible] M. Satter
Track 9-[illegible], A[illegible], Cheerleader 9-[illegible], [illegible], [illegible] Peer Tutor [illegible], [illegible], Fall Homecoming Court [illegible], [illegible] Runner Up, Prom Court [illegible], Academic Hall of Fame
[illegible] M. [illegible]e[illegible]
Football 9-[illegible], A[illegible], Play [illegible], Natural Helpers [illegible], OY[illegible], [illegible], Symphonic [illegible], Variety Show [illegible], Student Faculty 3 Ball [illegible], P. Puff Football [illegible], Prom K[illegible]
[illegible]abeth A. [illegible]ef[illegible]k
Track & Field [illegible], Volleyball 9-[illegible], A[illegible], [illegible], Cheerleader [illegible], Natural Helpers [illegible], [illegible], Track Co-Captain [illegible], [illegible] Runner Up, [illegible], Academic Hall of Fame
[illegible]a Se[illegible]
Football 9-10, Pow Wow [illegible]

AFTER four years of hard work and perfect attendance ... [redacted] proudly accepts his diploma ... ear ... as well as ... ational Honor Society ... [redacted] can not help but be pleased with all he has accomplished.

ABOUT to head out on stage and perform during ... Band, [redacted] examines the finishing touches to his costume. After helping make ... everything out ... symmetrical and realistic.

WITH a ... of ... eyes, [redacted] ... around after the dress rehearsal of ... A.O. ... year [redacted] ... not only wowed the ... during the musical with his vocal range, but he also was the first student to ever sing the National Anthem at commencement, singing for a large crowd.

...aley ... Shaffer
... oraler ..., ecathlon ..., ... ee 9 ..., ... Club ..., Musical ..., Symphonic ...
A...y ... Shaw
...a... P. S...ok...
Academic Hall of Fame
A...e... ... ...k...
A... ..., Concert Band ..., ...pe Bow..., ... Band 9, Symphonic Band ..., Academic Hall of Fame
...quel...e ... ...u...er
Art Club ..., Concert Orchestra 9, Reading ..., Symphonic String ..., ...w... 9-...
...y ...y
Baseball 9 ..., Academic Hall of Fame
...a... ... ...pk...
...t Club ..., Cardboard Boat Regatta ...
...a... A. S...ark...
Baseball 9, Football 9-..., R... Peer Tutor ...
...ey R. ...ee...
Concert Band 9-..., Symphonic Band ...
... A. Sp...

... M. Stafford
Concert Band ..., Marching Band ..., Pep Band ..., Symphonic Band ..., V...
...a ... Stanley
A... ... ...t...
..., IOSA ..., THS ..., VHS ...
Meredith R. ...ta...k
A... Band ..., Art Club ..., Play ..., IO... ..., ..., ... Set ..., Speech Team 9, ..., ...e Spain ..., Variety Show ..., IOSA ... President ..., ... Spirit Award, Academic Hall of Fame
... ...tee...e
... 9-..., Basketball ..., Football 9, ... Student Faculty B Ball Game ...

Basketball 9, ...
...da R. ...amett
Volleyball 9-10, Decathalon ..., ... Knowledge Master ..., ... Club 9-..., ... Super Bowl ..., Tae Kwon ...
...fe...ha...e A. Tay...
...a...e P. ...mey
... 9, OYM ..., Pow Wow ..., OYM ...ood ...uy Award ..., ...ter ...ome..., Academic Hall of Fame

...a...e... A. ...
...e...t ..., ... Set ..., OYM Set ..., ...
...oe A. ...um...d
...a...e... ... ...
...a...a ... Va...e...iff
...untry 9-10, Tennis 9-..., ..., ...amber Orchestra 9, ...ert Orchestra ..., ..., Academic Hall of Fame
...te...e... Vau...t
Basketball 9-..., Football 9-..., Track 9-..., OYM ..., ... Football, Academic Hall of Fame

2002

FOOTBALL TEAM WENT TO SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME. LOST TO VALPARAISO

Boys' Basketball team went to sectional championships

2003

First annual Student/Faculty b-ball game

War in Iraq started - March 19th

ABOUT ... w..., [redacted] ...tay... ... e... ...the ...ur... ...ne ...er ...na... te... mat...e... ...and opp...e.... Ofte... t...e, for ...e... ...f... the ...f ...e at ...e ...a... be bittersweet.

REAL... ... the ...st of ...e ... the last ...e at pr..., [redacted] ...ere...ade... ...of ...00 [redacted], ...th ...e...r em... and ...y exa...e at.... ...e...ked out in a top ...at with ... ...irt ...buttone... ...an attempt t... stay ..., [redacted] ... wi... ...we...t after a ... and ... ...of da.... ... ...a...y people ... a ... area t...ose that ...ut a ...u... ... ... e... up ... ... the end of the ...t.

READY and excited ... [redacted] ..., take [redacted] ...e... ... Affairs, ...mencement, ... began around sunset, ...se...s sat on the football field facing the west, ... made ... quiet a... proper. ...aduate... ... ... with the ...orter... and ... to ...f... of the ... ...at ...ays as [redacted] did.

ON the steps of the bleachers, [redacted] plays the clarinet. Ryan was not only a member of the pep band, but he was also in concert and symphonic band. [redacted] along with the rest of the pep band was able to play a variety of music at the game they could not play in the classroom.

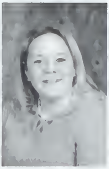
No, he is not raising his hand to answer a question in the classroom, [redacted] along the front at prom. Quiet, but comical, [redacted] was selected to be on the staff of Natural Helpers in the spring of his senior year, and was a varsity wrestler and football player.

POSING as [redacted] Gene Simmons, [redacted] amazes the audience at Air Band with his elaborate costume and makeup. [redacted] realized that there was an appropriate time and place for his antics, surprising the student body with an intense performance along with his friends that will no doubt be one of the most memorable Air Band acts due to the energy and incredible authenticity of it.

... Vasquez
Football 9-12, Swimming 9-12, Pep Band 12,
Multicultural Club 10-12, Symphonic Band 9,
Student Government Day 12,
A... Vila
Tennis 9, Legend 11-12, Student Council ...
... Vu
Knowledge Master ..., Super Bowl ...
Jeremy W. Walter
Brittany R. Webb
... , OSA 10-12, Speech Team 9-12

... R. White
... Wilcox
..., Art Bowl ..., Knowledge Master ..., ..., Lit Bowl ..., Reading Club 12, Spell Bowl ..., Student Council 12, Super Bowl ..., Writer's Block ...,
Academic Hall of Fame
Kristin V. Witt
Basketball 9 ...
... Wilkes
OSA ..., P. Puff Football Game ...
Adam ... Williford

... try ... Williams
Powder Puff Football Game ...
... A. Williams
Football 9-..., ... 9, ... Play ..., Natural Helpers ..., OYA ..., Student ..., Student ..., Variety Show ..., Senior Class Treasurer ...
... fer ... Witt
Softball 9-..., Volleyball 9, Concert Band ..., ..., Legend ..., Marching Band ..., Natural Helpers ..., Pep Band 9-..., Legend ... Editor ...
Courtney A. ... eman
... Smith



[illegible] witka
[illegible]
[illegible], R[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]ele [illegible] Wr[illegible]t
Beatr[illegible]e [illegible]ama[illegible]
Te[illegible], [illegible]e[illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible]egend [illegible], Multicultural [illegible], S[illegible]a[illegible], Stude[illegible]t [illegible], V[illegible], A[illegible]ademic [illegible] of [illegible]ame

[illegible] Z[illegible]
Te[illegible] 9-1[illegible], [illegible], Student [illegible], Student [illegible] Representative 1[illegible], Academic [illegible]all of Fame, [illegible] Valuable [illegible]
[illegible]an R. [illegible]kowski
Soccer 9-1[illegible], A[illegible]S [illegible], Latin Club 9, VHS [illegible], O[illegible], Student [illegible] 9-[illegible], V[illegible] 1[illegible]

The Rest of the Class of 2004

[illegible]

Up [illegible] [redacted] [illegible], [redacted] [illegible]hows her what [illegible] in a [illegible] at the prom. Ve[illegible] [redacted] added her own personal style and bit of heritage to her formal by accessorizing with eye a[illegible] and jewelry. [redacted], like [illegible], dressed to match [illegible] date, but tried to stand out and not just look like a penguin.

Juniors

Class of 2005

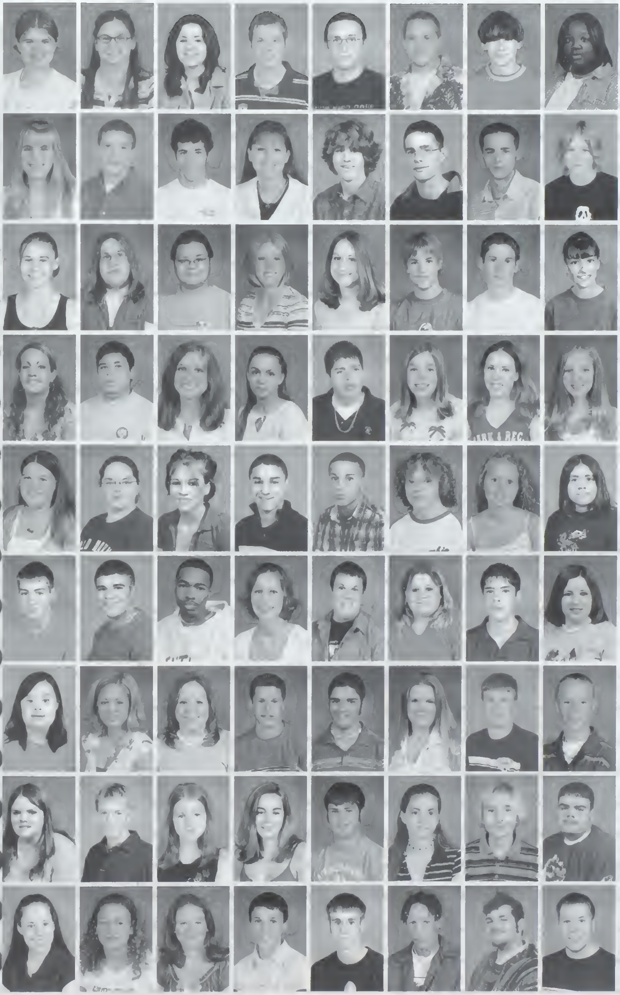
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
Brian Ayer[illegible]
[illegible] Baccaretto
Rob Bailey
Rob[illegible] Bailey
Brittany Ba[illegible]
Brittany Ba[illegible]

[illegible] Baraja
[illegible]
Jacque[illegible]e Barnum
[illegible]topher Bartley
[illegible] Bart[illegible]
Aimee Ba[illegible]
[illegible] Ba[illegible]ett
[illegible] Battrea[illegible]

Ryan Baue[illegible]
[illegible] Bea[illegible]
[illegible] Bear[illegible]
Lauren Be[illegible]
Holly Ben[illegible]
[illegible]ett Berme[illegible]
[illegible] Be[illegible]yna[illegible]
[illegible] Beta[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] Ba[illegible]to[illegible]
Rache[illegible] Blejski
[illegible] Bo[illegible]
[illegible]
Amber Bo[illegible]e[illegible]
[illegible] Bo[illegible]t



Kaylyn Boekhem
[illegible] Bosley
[illegible] Bowen
[illegible] Brau
Steven Brenan
Chris Brink
Bryon Bristow
Allen Brown

[illegible] Brown
[illegible] Brown
[illegible] Brubaker
[illegible] Bruce
Kenneth Bryan
Jeffery Buck
Jeremy Bucy
Andrew Bucek

Samantha Burge
Ryan Butera
[illegible] Caraway
[illegible] Campbell
Kelly Carner
Gary Carroll
[illegible] Carrick
[illegible] Carter

[illegible] Cath
[illegible] Chane
Stephenie Chaddock
[illegible] Chaney
Alejandro Chaze
[illegible] Checkiewicz
[illegible] Clark
[illegible] Clark

Kayla Cochran
[illegible] Coffey
Veronica [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Justin Collins
Randy [illegible]
Kayla [illegible]

Jeffery Copeland
[illegible]
[illegible] Cox
[illegible] Craft
Robert Creceli[illegible]
[illegible] Creech
[illegible] Cutler
[illegible] Cutler

Melissa [illegible]
Melanee [illegible]
Katelyn Davenport
[illegible]
Kyle Delaney
[illegible]
Matthew [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]
Timothy [illegible]
Andrea [illegible]
Krystle [illegible]
Andrew [illegible]
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[illegible]
Tiffany [illegible]
Kelly [illegible]
Matthew Engel
Kristopher [illegible]
William [illegible]
Stephen [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] Foster
Ka[illegible] [illegible]yte[illegible]
[illegible]yana [illegible]ravel
Steve[illegible] [illegible]rye
Jennifer Fur[illegible]ye

[illegible]na [illegible]abb[illegible]
Shaun Gannon
[illegible]a[illegible] [illegible]au
Jame[illegible] [illegible]eary
Samantha [illegible]embala
A[illegible]be[illegible] [illegible]entry
Bobby [illegible]ifford
[illegible]a[illegible] [illegible]bert

Nathan [illegible]ilbert
Britta[illegible]y [illegible]
Raymo[illegible] [illegible]o[illegible]
[illegible]e[illegible]e[illegible] [illegible]elt
[illegible]y [illegible]a[illegible]
Sara[illegible] [illegible]ram[illegible]fer
[illegible]ola[illegible] [illegible]a[illegible]e[illegible]
Amanda [illegible]ray

QUIZ

2.) How are your books arranged?
a.) In order, color coordinated by blocks, and neatly placed on the shelf.
b.) Whatever is most convenient and within reach.
c.) I just throw them in there and have a hard time finding them later.

1.) What is on the inside of your locker?
a.) My planner with assignments and upcoming events which I update daily.
b.) Nothing really. Maybe a few pictures here and there.
c.) Randomly place photos of friends and celebrities covering the whole door.

3.) What is the typical trip to your locker like?
a.) During passing periods I neatly exchange my materials for the upcoming block and take down my assignments in my planner.
b.) Get and drop off my books.
c.) Stay at my locker, throw in my stuff, and hang with my friends... maybe even let them throw their stuff in too.

ANSWERS

MOSTLY A'S

You are a bit of a neat freak that fusses over the little things. This may cause you to be unaware of your life "outside of your locker." It's okay to relax sometimes and take things as they come.

MOSTLY B'S

You are a relaxed person who just likes to get through the day without a problem. You're always making sure you do what's needed to be done. You may have other things on your mind, but you know your priorities.

MOSTLY C'S

You are the type of person who doesn't worry about organization or just doesn't have the time to care. Your crazy locker may be so overwhelming that it is preventing you from getting the grades you would like. A little organization will help you take control of your crazy life-style.

[illegible] Greer
Alejandra Guerrero
Jessica Guffey
Ashley Gurgon
Tiffany Gurski
Genesis Guzman
Douglas Hale
Mark Hallmer

Lisa Hansel
Demetria Hardiman-Ferrel
Ter[illegible] Har[illegible]to[illegible]
Sarah Har[illegible]
Jessica Hatfield
Amanda Hayes
Charlotte Heckman
Matthew Help[illegible]st[illegible]e

Joshua Henry
Alexander Hernandez
Andrew Hernandez
Justin Hess
[illegible] He[illegible]se[illegible]e
Brie Hettrick
David Hinojosa
Steven Hojnacki

Sara Horner
Mary Horvath
Rebecca [illegible]stetter
Peter Hubbard
Heather Hufgard
Shawna Hughes
Ronel Huse
Jacob Hust[illegible]

[illegible]ge[illegible]e [illegible]arry
Jennifer Jacobs
A[illegible]ey Jao[illegible]e[illegible]ky
Amanda Jancaric
A[illegible]a Jar[illegible]ak
[illegible]a[illegible] Ja[illegible]
Car[illegible] Jimenez
Ma[illegible] [illegible]ner

[illegible]
A[illegible] [illegible]man
Amanda Kapalko
[illegible]e[illegible] Kaufman
Megan Keen
Brad Kemp
[illegible]d Kendall
Jacquelyn Kennedy

Adam K[illegible]re
Michael Kirk
[illegible]ey K[illegible]kpatrick
Jennifer K[illegible]e[illegible]
[illegible]abeth Koonce
[illegible]teven Kra[illegible]k
Kenda Kra[illegible]
[illegible]e[illegible]t Kr[illegible]wyk

Amy Kuzminski
Ashley [illegible]ankford
Ellen Lavery
R[illegible]ard [illegible]ayba, Jr.
A[illegible]y [illegible]ea
[illegible]teve[illegible] [illegible]effert
[illegible]ae[illegible] [illegible]et[illegible]
[illegible]chael [illegible]eucuta

A[illegible]ey [illegible]eb[illegible]
Jeremy [illegible]ing
Samantha [illegible]genfeter
[illegible]e [illegible]per
[illegible]ee [illegible]ubbock
[illegible]ara[illegible] [illegible]ubbock
Jaime [illegible]uedtke
[illegible]zabeth Malast

Jennifer Manning
[illegible]t[illegible]e Mar[illegible]
[illegible]a[illegible] Marcotte
[illegible]eather Markwe[illegible]
[illegible]a[illegible]y Markwe[illegible]
Ke[illegible]eth Mar[illegible]
Megan Mart[illegible]
James Martinez

[illegible]e[illegible]a Mayfie[illegible]
[illegible]omas Mayoc[illegible]
[illegible]e[illegible] Ma[illegible]
[illegible]ar[illegible] Ma[illegible]
K[illegible]be[illegible] M[illegible]ela[illegible]
[illegible]omas M[illegible]ela[illegible]
Jacob McCormick
[illegible]ca M[illegible]rm[illegible]k

WHAT MAKES YOUR JUNIOR YEAR DIFFERENT FROM YOUR PREVIOUS HIGH SCHOOL YEARS?

"The classes are harder and you have to work harder because colleges look at your junior year."
-Melissa Clark

"Junior year was the first year I was able to be in certain advanced classes and activities that are only available to upper classmen."
-Kelly Canner

"During your junior year, it seems like you have a chance to take more electives that you are interested in.
-Rebecca Turpin

WHEN IT COMES TIME TO COMPETE, THE BOYS TENNIS TEAM IS ALWAYS PREPARED. JUNIOR KEVIN DIXON PRACTICE ALMOST EVERYDAY SO HE IS AS PREPARED AS HE CAN BE. DIXON IS ONE OF THE TOP TENNIS PLAYERS

EVERY OTHER FRIDAY THE STUDENT BODY RECEIVES A COPY OF THE "POW WOW." MANY DON'T REALIZE ALL OF THE WORK THAT GOES INTO MAKING THE "POW WOW." JUNIORS JESSE SKLARZ AND ERICK WILCZYNSKI PONDER OVER HOW TO DESIGN ONE OF THE PAGES FOR THE NEXT ISSUE.

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT, OR SO MOST OF US WOULD LIKE TO THINK, BUT HERE WE CAN SEE JUNIORS ATHANASIA PAPACHRONIS AND JESSICA HATFIELD PRACTICING FOR THEIR NEXT MEET. THE PRACTICES ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO THE TEAMS SUCCESS.

[illegible]une
Meredith [illegible]
Jessica M[illegible]ster
Kristopher Mea[illegible]ich
Samantha Me[illegible]
Brandon Me[illegible]
Joseph Me[illegible]a
[illegible]a Me[illegible]a

[illegible]arlene [illegible]erket
[illegible]a Mer[illegible]er
[illegible]e
Rebecca Meyer[illegible]
Jason M[illegible]
[illegible]
Jessica M[illegible]
Vanessa M[illegible]

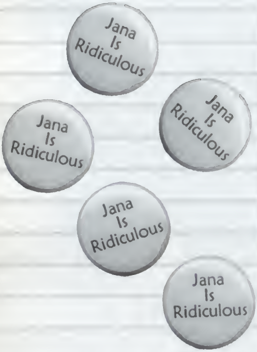
[illegible]abee
Amanda [illegible]
Ray[illegible]
Stephanie Mor[illegible]
Jennifer M[illegible]e
Ryan Mueller
Alex Mu[illegible]
Melissa [illegible]

[illegible] Mundt
[illegible] Murphy
Sara Mustafa
Stephen [illegible]agel
Manuel [illegible]ardi
Michael Na[illegible]atka
Katie Ne[illegible]
Kimberly Ne[illegible]

Samantha Newbe[illegible]
[illegible]ey [illegible]
[illegible]et
Bradley Nork[illegible]
Daniel Nowac[illegible]
[illegible] O[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] Ort[illegible]

A wise man once said, "Every girl is crazy for a sharp dressed man" and that is what junior Kris Engstrom and senior Mike Hutchins ponder before the big night.

Concentrating on the sheet music, junior Jeremy Bucy plays his favorite instrument. Bucy won the position of drum major for the Marching Indians for his senior year.



ichelle Otero
Ryan Palmer
Al ana a Papachronis
Michael Parker
Alex Passo
 istina Pearson
Kr tina Peko
Jennifer Perrine

Joshua Phillips
 ara Pivarnik
 ean Pontjer
Alex Popplewell
 arna Pra a
Victoria Pryle
Stephanie Pugh
Maria Quiroz

 a ele Rader
 avid Rains
Teddy Ray
Joshua Rey
Tiffany Reyes
Keith Rhodes
Jacqueline Rice
Megan Richmond

 a Ricker
Je ca Riffett
 istopher Ri
Kyle Riley
 a e Rines
Je ca Ri
 itol Rivera
 ya Robbins

Crystal Rodriguez
Nicole Rodriguez
Tina Rodriguez
Sarah Rogers
William Rook
[illegible] R[illegible]ey
Steven Rosenbaum
Benjamin Rosenberger

Brandon Rowton
Paige Roy
Megan Royce
Eric Ruiz
Louis Rubalcaba
T[illegible]a Sabo[illegible]k
Amy Samplawski
Alfredo Sanchez

This year's annual blood drive had a bigger turn out then expected. Although some of the students couldn't give blood one of the many students who did was junior Tegan Ortiz. She had her juice in hand in case she started to feel sick or dizzy.

After school the thespians would practice different make-up tricks for the upcoming plays, and even just for fun. Junior Elizabeth Koonce was turned into a cat by a fellow student. We have yet to see any cat make-up on the PHS stage.

At the annual Junior Miss Competition, junior Brie Hettrick danced to L.O.V.E by Natalie Cole for the talent part of the competition. Her amazing performance contributed to her winning the runner-up position for the 2004 year.

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Ra[illegible]ael [illegible]
Mark Scheuer
Michael Schmitz
[illegible]
Amanda [illegible]
[illegible] Scott
[illegible]
Amy [illegible]
Michele S[illegible]earer
Matthew [illegible]epherd
[illegible]stopher [illegible]
[illegible]

This year's fall play MASH, was a hit with the students. Juniors Amanda Morales and Stevie Chaddock sit backstage, chatting and practicing their lines for one of the upcoming scenes of the play.

All Junior girls have the opportunity to be a part of this event, but few jump at the chance. Junior Erica Sanetznik played her own version of "The Devil Went Down To Georgia" which won her the Stevenson Award.

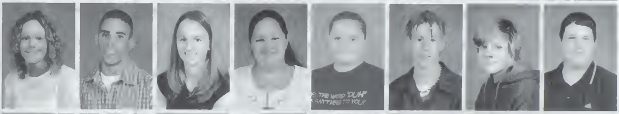
The medical classes have helped many students over the year's develop many skills. Junior Michael Schmitz went on a field trip to one of the local elementary schools to teach the students about good oral hygiene.

Timothy Spatter
Michael Smith
Teresa Smitrovich
Brett Spotter
Ashley Sprague
Lynda Stinson
Jeanna Stolarz
Nicholas Sturges

Brandon Stutler
Scott Swanson
Jessica Szabo
Molly Talbot
Micah Tilford
Timothy Tkach
Shaun Tooze
Sarah Urquia

Waitan Tung
Rebecca Turpin
Ashley Vargas
Tracy Vargas
Roberta Vargas
Rachel Vasquez
Jamie Vega
Amanda Via

Josette Villegas
Jennifer Waite
Kandice Walsko
Lindsey Warfield
Daniel Warren
Ronald Waters
Heather Watson
Christina Webber



Kim Weiland
Joshua Whalen
Meredith Wheeler
Rachael Whitworth
Sean Wiatrowski
Justin Wilbanks
Nick Wilczynski
Randall Wilkening, Jr.

Tasha Will
Bryan Williams
William Wood
Marissa Wright
Nathan Wright
Krysta York
Brianne Young
Melody Young

Kelley Yudt
Hamid Zakutansky
Matthew Zaper
Jamie Zemik
Dana Zeru

WHAT CLASS DO YOU THINK MADE THE MOST IMPACT ON YOU?

"English II Honors with Kathy Kotyuk because it helped me become a better writer and think out of the box."
-Jessica Blanton

"The class that had the most impact on me was volleyball because I didn't do anything but run and dominate."
-David Granillo

"English II, Mr. Cope because he is more than just a teacher. He has changed my life."
-David Wright

Sophomores

Class of 2006

[illegible]e Abrams
A[illegible] Ackerman
Scott Adams
Jacob Ahb[illegible]
Rene Alaniz
Amber Albrecht
Radley Alcantara
[illegible]erek Alle[illegible]

[illegible]topher Alma[illegible]nger
Samantha Amore
[illegible]a[illegible]d Anderson
Jacob Anderson
Rochelle Anderson
Stephen Anderson
Bianca Angarola
Raym[illegible] Anth[illegible]

Richard Ar[illegible]t
Brittany Ayers
Ro[illegible] Bailey
Jessica Bannister
Keisha Barajas
Aaron Barnes
Katherine Barnes
Brittany Barnett

[illegible]atacha Ba[illegible]e
[illegible]orman Ba[illegible]e
Katherine Bati[illegible]a
Brittany Bennett
Marvi[illegible] Bennett
Aar[illegible] Bere[illegible]
[illegible]an Ber[illegible]ner
Scott Bi[illegible]

Brand[illegible] Bi[illegible]ler
[illegible]tina Blackwe[illegible]
[illegible]red Blat[illegible]
Ashley Blonski
[illegible]ae Bodnar
Je[illegible]ca Bo[illegible]t
Angela Boo[illegible]
[illegible]tney Bowe[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible]e
[illegible]ne, [illegible]
[illegible]
Paul [illegible]
Kayla Br[illegible]
Betty Brown
[illegible]ua Br[illegible]
[illegible]ean B[illegible]

Tiffany Br[illegible]ner
[illegible]atthew [illegible]yan
Amanda Bu[illegible]
[illegible]ael [illegible]ke
A[illegible] Bus[illegible]
[illegible]stopher [illegible]
Antonio [illegible]am[illegible]a
Amanda [illegible]ampbell

Brandon Campbell
[illegible]e [illegible]araba[illegible]
R[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]
Me[illegible]an [illegible]
Sarah [illegible]ate[illegible]
Amber [illegible]aja
[illegible]ua [illegible]ar[illegible]

Tiffany [illegible]a[illegible]e
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
April [illegible]ower
Jeffrey [illegible]uff
Adam [illegible]cy
Stephanie [illegible]ff[illegible]

Joey [illegible]de
Samantha [illegible]
Stefan [illegible]e
Brent Cook
Sarah Cooper
Tiffany Cooper
[illegible]atra [illegible]d[illegible]a
[illegible]ar[illegible]ett

[illegible]
[illegible]a[illegible]ttew
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[illegible]e[illegible]el
Joelene [illegible]ra[illegible]
Mary [illegible]a[illegible]ea[illegible]
Jeremy [illegible]a
[illegible]a[illegible] [illegible]ee[illegible]

[illegible]nae[illegible]e[illegible]e[illegible]to[illegible]
Alex [illegible]t
[illegible]e[illegible] [illegible]wder
[illegible] [illegible]owley
Paul [illegible]u[illegible]e
Andrew [illegible]up
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Ala[illegible] [illegible]a[illegible]

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[illegible]a [illegible]a[illegible]e
A[illegible] [illegible]ault
Jeremy [illegible]avie[illegible]
Ashley Davis
[illegible]dsey [illegible]a[illegible]
Rebekah [illegible]a[illegible]
Ra[illegible]da[illegible] [illegible]awk[illegible]

[illegible]ja[illegible] [illegible]e[illegible]t[illegible]e[illegible]
[illegible]y [illegible]nar[illegible]
[illegible]a[illegible]a [illegible]el Rea[illegible]
Jennifer [illegible]ela[illegible]
Brittany [illegible]e[illegible]ure[illegible]
[illegible]a[illegible]a [illegible]e[illegible]ara
[illegible]athan [illegible]e[illegible]k
Stephan[illegible] [illegible]elaney

Stephanie [illegible]
[illegible] Dexter
[illegible] Dexter
Mark [illegible]
Jeffrey [illegible]ney
[illegible]ane [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]ouhy
Ryanne [illegible]oherty

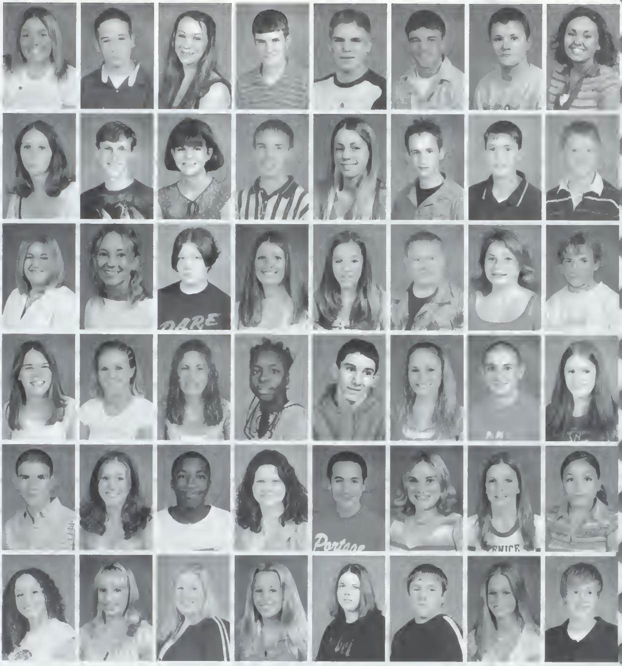
[illegible] [illegible]erty
Cody [illegible]ree[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]unni[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
Je[illegible]a [illegible]
[illegible]rad [illegible]
Matthew [illegible]
[illegible]topher [illegible]

[illegible] Fab[illegible]
Anna [illegible]
Amanda [illegible]eeney
Sarah [illegible]eter
[illegible]exandria [illegible]
Matthew [illegible]fie[illegible]
Abby [illegible]
James [illegible]annery

Kara Fornar[illegible]
Kimberly Frazier
[illegible]awna [illegible]eema[illegible]
[illegible]a [illegible]eeney
[illegible] [illegible]ainer
[illegible]ey [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
Stephanie [illegible]arne[illegible]

Justin [illegible]arza
Ka[illegible] [illegible]
Brandon [illegible]bert
Amber [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]ca [illegible]ee[illegible]
Malory [illegible]
Sarah [illegible]omez

[illegible] [illegible]ale[illegible]
Jaclyn Gore
Malory [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]ett
[illegible] [illegible]
R[illegible] [illegible]
Tara Hagan
[illegible] [illegible]afman



At the beginning of ea[illegible] term, students have [illegible] wait around to get lock[illegible] for their gym lockers. Sophomores Megan Rodriquez, [illegible] [illegible]embach and Brittany [illegible]ett use the time to [illegible] advantage and do a little friendly b[illegible].

With a look of [illegible] on his face, sophomore Alex [illegible] makes his stage debut in M*A*S*H. The [illegible] has also been a feature film and one of the longest running television [illegible].

Deep in thought, sophomore Rachel Pekar studies her opponent's [illegible] and tries to anticipate what they might do next. At the end of the year, Pekar was elected chess club president.

[illegible]
[illegible]
Rachel Haner
Stephanie [illegible]
Tiffany [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]
Stephanie [illegible]
Robert Heck
Krystal [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Matthew [illegible]
Maria [illegible]

Michael Hewitt
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

Stephanie [illegible]
Christopher [illegible]
Stephen Hopper
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Mary [illegible]iff
Alyssa [illegible]

Thomas [illegible]
Kyle Jacob[illegible]
[illegible]
Veronica [illegible]
Rob[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

With a few minutes to spare, sophomore Nicole Justice reviews the stories that she wrote this year for Pow Wow. The name of the student newspaper has always bugged some members of the staff.

[illegible]
[illegible]
Timothy [illegible]
Nicole Justice
Keith Kaminski
Rachel Ka[illegible]
Matthew Kasper
Nathan [illegible]e

[illegible] Tayore Kee[illegible]
Jessica Keene
Nathan Kelam[illegible]
Amber Kemp
James Kennedy
Benjamin Kerekmar
Brandon Ketchum
Sarah K[illegible]

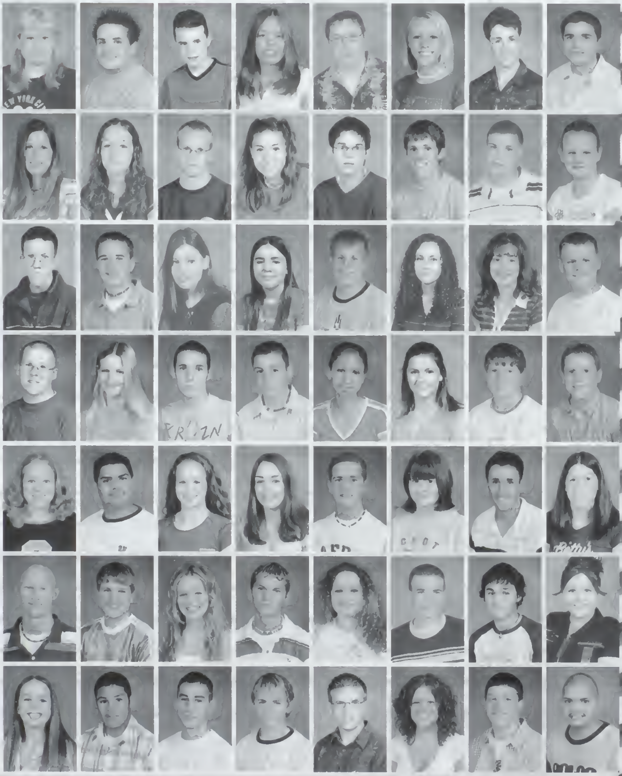
Bra[illegible] K[illegible]
Michael K[illegible]
[illegible]
Kathryn Kladi[illegible]
Matthew Kne[illegible]
Megan K[illegible]
[illegible] Kovac[illegible]
Nicholas Kozik

[illegible] Klemke
[illegible] K[illegible]
Marcus Kuta
Christopher Lab[illegible]
Alycia Laboy
[illegible]ette La[illegible]bauer
Ronald Lap[illegible]e
Daniel Lasky

[illegible]
Raul [illegible]ea
[illegible] Lee
Danielle Leimbach
[illegible] Lent[illegible]
Brittany Le[illegible]ewski
Brian Let[illegible]a
[illegible] Lewandowski

Nathan Le[illegible]
Robert Le[illegible]
Amina [illegible]ira
Michael Loehmer
Jessica Lombardo
Christopher [illegible]
Aaron Lopez
Christina Lopez

[illegible]
Andrea Magana
Mark Magana
Andrew Mar[illegible]
Thomas Mar[illegible]
Viera Marjan[illegible]
Jeremy Marti[illegible]
Christopher Martinez



Claudia Martinez
Candace Matthews
Raymond Mauch
Autumn McCormick
Brittany McCready
Kayla McCurdy
Jeremy McDonald
Hannah McKee

Matthew McMurray
Victoria Meanovich
Alyssa Medaniel
Ross Menciewicz
Kristin Mendez
Anna Mendoza
Stephanie Merret
Jessica Met

Laura Mikenas
Patricia Miley
Jonathan Miller
Natasha Miller
Kate Mi[illegible]
Jessica Mitchell
Nicola Mitchell
Adam Moeni

Katie Moen
Nikita Momola
[illegible] Montgomery
Natasha M[illegible]
Joseph Morales
Megan Moran
Natalie Morado
April Mu[illegible]

On a beautiful fall day, sophomore Lauren Ruzga tees up the golf ball at the Valparaiso Country Club. Ruzga participated in the [illegible] sectional tournament this year.

With poms in hand, juniors Ashley [illegible] and sophomores Katherine Batista and Jessica Bo[illegible]t show their team support at the fall pep rally. All three girls really enjoy dancing as exercise and stress relief.

The annual Zelafest draws a variety of students who want to learn about the cutting edge of music technology. Sophomore Sarah Mustafa played the bass guitar for the group.

With a look of determination, sophomore [illegible] Yetz [illegible] her off season time conditioning in gym class. Yetz was a member of the gymnastics team this year.

[illegible] Murphy
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Kristen Myers
Matthew Myers
Makyla Neace
Jared Neubert

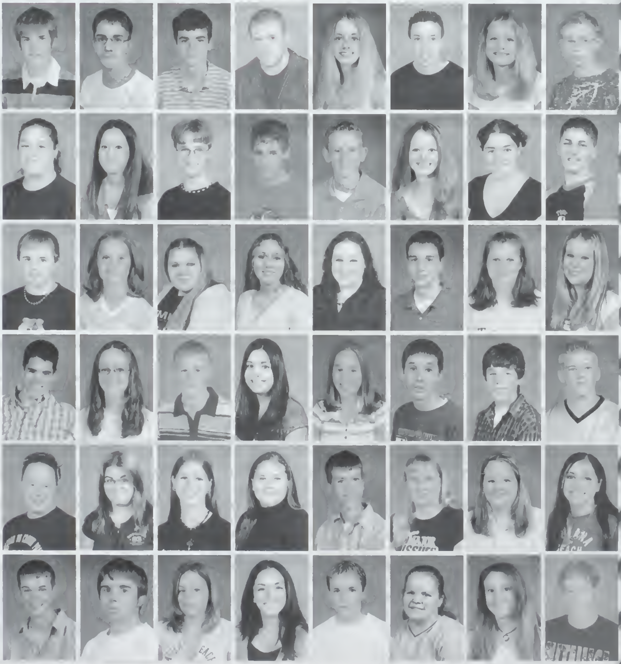
[illegible] Newcomb
[illegible] Nguyen
[illegible]
Ryan [illegible]
Bryan [illegible]
Ashley Norman
Stephanie [illegible]
Richard O'Rear

Jordan Oakes
Sara [illegible]
Anne Ortega
[illegible] Otero
Mande Paniagua
Joseph Parkewitz
Krystal Patanart
Breanna Patillo

[illegible] Pe[illegible]
[illegible] Pe[illegible]
[illegible] Pennington
[illegible]ette Pennington
Krista Perry
Ryse Pfeffer
[illegible] Phillips
Christopher Phillips

[illegible] Pierce
Ray Pierce
Rachel Pittman
[illegible] Potke
Bryan Priest
Amy [illegible]
Krysta [illegible]
A[illegible] P[illegible]

Matthew Purcell
Raymond Purdy
Krysta Rabel
Rachael Ramirez
[illegible] Ramsey
[illegible] Rance
[illegible] Rappatta
Timothy Ray



[illegible] Re[illegible]e
[illegible]e Reed
[illegible] Re[illegible]ner
Andrew Repay
[illegible] Rey[illegible]
[illegible] Rie[illegible]
Brittany R[illegible]
Tom Riley

Jeffrey R[illegible]
A[illegible]a Robinson
[illegible]topher Rob[illegible]
Jasmine Rodrigue[illegible]
Megan Rodrigue[illegible]
[illegible]stopher R[illegible]
[illegible]el R[illegible]
Jessica R[illegible]er[illegible]

[illegible]urtney R[illegible]
[illegible]e R[illegible]
Tyler Rosembaum
Jessica Rosendahl
[illegible] R[illegible]eau
[illegible]sey R[illegible]
Lauren R[illegible]a
Amanda Sable

Alle[illegible]a Sa[illegible]
Ashley Sandlin
Kristie [illegible]
Mari[illegible] Santamomana
[illegible] Sa[illegible]
Jeffrey [illegible]atter
Sarah Scharpf
Benjami[illegible]

[illegible] Sc[illegible]ma
[illegible]ame [illegible]
[illegible] Schneider
Amanda [illegible]
Ke[illegible]
[illegible]een [illegible]tt
[illegible] Searer
Brooke Secrest

[illegible] enjoyment is not just for the upperclassmen. Senior [illegible] Ortiz and sophomore Stephanie [illegible] spend a few seconds to strike a pose for the photographer.

While sleeping is not an official class, some sophomores try to steal a few seconds whatever and wherever they can. Sleeping on the bleachers in the gym just cannot be comfortable for anyone.

[illegible] Seefeldt
[illegible]ee Serrano
[illegible]er [illegible]
Jamie Shay
Aar[illegible] [illegible]ebe[illegible]
Kevin Shelton
Stephanie Simon
Rosalinda Singer

[illegible]ae[illegible]
Alexander Sk[illegible]tar[illegible]
[illegible]
Jennifer Smith
Jennifer Smith
Justin Smith
Nathan Smith
A[illegible]ley [illegible]a

Jennifer Spence
[illegible] Stanford
[illegible]ie Stanford
[illegible]ua Staney
A[illegible]a [illegible]tark
Stephanie Star[illegible]
Amanda Stark
Alexandra Stewart

[illegible]tia Stewart
Andrew Stills
William St[illegible]
Randi [illegible]
Alex [illegible]tribac
Kenneth Sullivan
Alexander Supp
[illegible]ae Sutler

Anthony Szymanski
[illegible]arie Tab[illegible]t
Kaitlyn Taley
Samantha Tampier
Stephanie Tar[illegible]
[illegible]a[illegible]y Tar[illegible]t
[illegible]ea[illegible] Tay[illegible]
Eric Tellez

[illegible] Tharp
Matthew Thode
Robert T[illegible]ma[illegible] III
J[illegible]ua T[illegible]
[illegible]e[illegible] Tie[illegible]a
[illegible]ep[illegible] T[illegible]sey
Alexander Tokarski
Robert Toma[illegible]

[illegible]avid Tomaszewski
Tar[illegible]sa T[illegible]e[illegible]
William T[illegible]
[illegible]ee Tra[illegible]
[illegible]rdan Tut[illegible]
Ashley Urbanek
[illegible]arre[illegible] Urqui[illegible]
[illegible]abrie Valtierra

[illegible] eyes on [illegible] sheet music, sophomore Robert [illegible] concentrates on playing his best. He [illegible] plays the bass clarinet which is used to round out the overall sound of small ensembles. They are also used in the symphonic.

Straight out of the Wild West, sophomores Gabriel Valtierra and Joseph Morales strut their stuff at the Variety Show. Neither Valtierra or Morales is shy when it comes to performing on stage at P.S.

Jettica Vasquez
Adam Yeel
Tyler W[illegible]
Ryan [illegible]ttero
Nicholas Wala
Adam Waters
Tommy Ward
Katie Weier
[illegible]e We[illegible]
Patrick West
Shauna [illegible]vel[illegible]e
Lisa Whitworth
Katie Wik
Jeffrey [illegible]
Brittany [illegible]iam
[illegible]mar [illegible]iam
Sarah Williams
Zackery Williams
Branden W[illegible]
Megan W[illegible]iak
Philip Wright
[illegible]e Yate
[illegible]ae York
O[illegible]a [illegible]amar[illegible]

Amanda Ja[illegible]
[illegible]

Freshmen

Class of 2007

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] A[illegible]
Z[illegible] Alexander
[illegible]antha Aley
[illegible]dan A[illegible]
[illegible]ati[illegible] A[illegible]ey
[illegible]a A[illegible]

[illegible] Andre[illegible]
[illegible]y A[illegible]
V[illegible]a A[illegible]
[illegible]antha A[illegible]
[illegible]icole Ayala
[illegible]e Back
[illegible] Bailey
[illegible]phen Ba[illegible]

[illegible]atthew Baker
[illegible] Balar[illegible]
[illegible]y Bar[illegible]
Herbie Barker
[illegible]eather Bar[illegible]w
R[illegible]ert [illegible]na[illegible]
[illegible] Bar[illegible]agar
J[illegible]a [illegible]arrett

[illegible]ey Bartoa[illegible]
[illegible]e[illegible] Battrea
Me[illegible]a Baue[illegible]
[illegible]athan Bea[illegible]
Kyle Beaudreau
[illegible]ttney Bee[illegible]
Amy Be[illegible]
[illegible]ae B[illegible]

[illegible]e[illegible] Be[illegible]nett
[illegible] Be[illegible]e
[illegible]ey Be[illegible]er
[illegible]itnee Berman
[illegible] Be[illegible]e[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Bran[illegible] B[illegible]chert
[illegible]
[illegible]

Robert [illegible]
Aimee [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Tara B[illegible]e
[illegible]
Amanda Bridges
Steven Brown

Casey Bryan
[illegible]
Heather B[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Andrew Bursto[illegible]
[illegible] Butera
[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
Tiffany [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

Anthony Carter
[illegible]
Sarah Castaneda
[illegible]
[illegible]
Michelle Castrejon
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Aaron [illegible]
[illegible]
R[illegible]
A[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Matthew [illegible]bett
[illegible]
A[illegible] Cox
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Douglas Dabill, Jr.
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Adam [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] Bauer
Kristan [illegible]
[illegible]
Jessica [illegible]
Michael [illegible]ney
Kyle [illegible]
[illegible] Dominque
Monique Duran

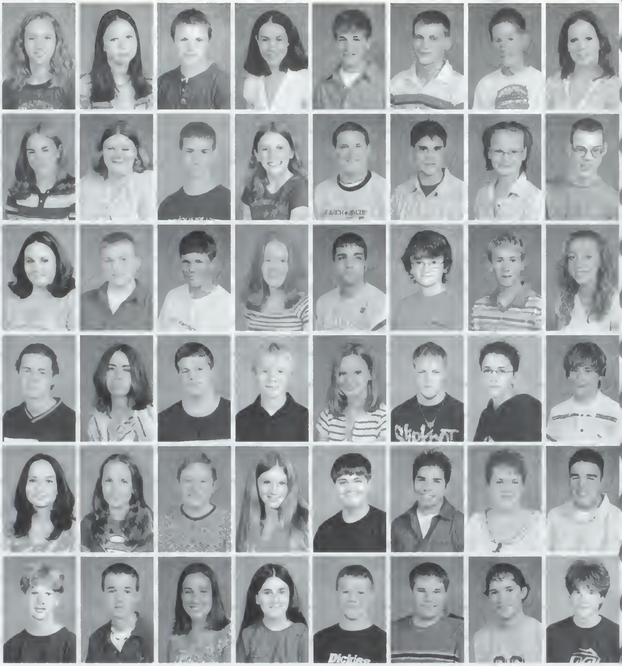
Amanda Farley
Nora Easter
Ryan Edwar[illegible]
Kait[illegible]
Trent [illegible]
Steven [illegible]
[illegible]yanne [illegible]
David [illegible]

Jackson [illegible]
Ryan Fagan
Ryan Fairchild
Lauren Fak
Andrew Far[illegible]
Aaron Fe[illegible]
Bradey Feelan
Julie Fields

[illegible]au[illegible]ey
Rachelle Fitzgerald
Aaron Field
[illegible]berry, Jr.
Jeliette [illegible]
[illegible]
Christophe Frechette
Nicholas Friday

Andrea Fuentes
Alyssa Fuit[illegible]
Michael Gallion
Megan [illegible]
David Garcia
Michael Ga[illegible]y
Megan Garner
Corbin Garza

[illegible]ast
Steven Gazibara
Michele [illegible]
Amy [illegible]
James [illegible]mer
Edward [illegible]dario
Steven [illegible]oheen
[illegible]ta [illegible]



HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT YOUR FRESHMEN YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL?

"THIS YEAR HAS BEEN EXTREMELY FUN, A LITTLE BIT SCARY, BUT VERY EXCITING," SAID FRESHMEN, CECELIA MARTINEZ

PHS
.37¢

While in class, freshmen Raphael Martinez and Valerie Lane work together on an assignment.

Brittany [illegible]
Sammie Gonzalez
Brett [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Heather [illegible]
Melanie Griffin
Samantha Griffith

Amber Grodetz
Jonathan Guerre[illegible]
David Gutierrez
Brandon Hack
James Haddox
Lindsey Hajduk
Deidria Hardman-Pierre
Kathleen Hargarten

Brittany Harris
Julia Hastings
Brandon Hatfield
Arpad Hayes, Jr.
Kelsea Hendrick
Anna Henry
Kyle Hess
Elizabeth Hill

Tiffany Hines
Travis Hoak
Ryan [illegible]gard
Travis [illegible]
Kateland [illegible]
Lauren Hokenson
Richard [illegible]
Jeremy [illegible]

Bradley [illegible]man
Audrey [illegible]stetler
Audrey [illegible]ward
Marissa Hudson
Adam [illegible]
Ashley Huizar
Justin Imeson
Kevin Isaac

Megan Jacobs
[illegible] Jagea
Alexandra Jan[illegible]
Amber Jarnecke
Brittany Jenks
Megan Jercha
[illegible] Jetmund
Adam [illegible]

Katheryn Jones
Kevin Jones
Kristine Jones
Meagan Jordan
Mirjana [illegible]ano[illegible]
Steven [illegible]
James Kalberer
Nathan Kasper

Class of 2007

Andrew Kauri[illegible]
[illegible] Kelley
Jamie Kelley
[illegible] Keneau
Sean Kenney
[illegible] Kiser
A[illegible]y Kelkner
Nathalee Kleckner

Amanda K[illegible]er
Michael Kobe, Jr.
[illegible]ey Koebske
[illegible]
[illegible] Ko[illegible]ar
[illegible] K[illegible]opasek
Lauren Konyk
[illegible]ey Kor[illegible]ack

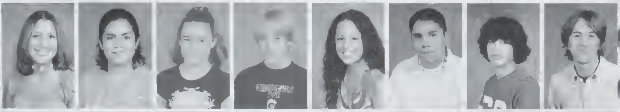
Samantha Kostelnik
[illegible] Kr[illegible]
[illegible] Kr[illegible]
Philip K[illegible]
Amanda K[illegible]a
Samantha Tab[illegible]
Luke [illegible]
Aaron [illegible]

[illegible]ary [illegible]
Kyle [illegible]
Valerie [illegible]
[illegible]ary [illegible]
Amanda [illegible]
[illegible]y [illegible]
Christopher [illegible]ayba
Amanda Lee

Samantha [illegible]emus
Steven [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] Lewis
Sarah Lewis
Hannah Lindstrom
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]atra [illegible]
[illegible] Luck
[illegible] Luedtke
Amanda Luna
[illegible]ua Maddack
[illegible] Maraffe[illegible]

Kayla Maldonado
[illegible] Mamar[illegible]
[illegible] Mard[illegible]
[illegible] Mark[illegible], Jr.
[illegible] Martinez
Jaime Martinez
[illegible] Martinez
[illegible] Marton



[illegible] Matvia
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] Mayfield
[illegible] M[illegible]arey
[illegible] M[illegible]ermack
[illegible] M[illegible]uire
A[illegible]a M[illegible]urray
[illegible] M[illegible]ear

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Ryan Miller

[illegible]
Brandon Mille[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

September 15 - September 21

September 2003						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2003						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Monday, September 15

Freshmen Class Meeting....
Spirit Week
Build Float!!!
(crazy day)

Tuesday, September 16

ISTEP Testing

Pom team Try-Outs???
(College/ Football Day)

Wednesday, September 17

ISTEP Testing

Cheerleading Try-Outs
Bring a BOW!!!

Thursday, September 18

Homecoming Parade

ISTEP Testing

Multicultural Club...
Hall Decoration and Pep Rally

Friday, September 19

Homcoming

ISTEP Testing

Student Council Meeting
Homcoming Dance...
Tailgate Party
(Red & white day)

Saturday, September 20

[illegible] Moore
[illegible]que [illegible]ar
[illegible] Morrison
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
Rub[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]ta
Max Mu[illegible]

[illegible] Mu[illegible]
Alexander Mu[illegible]
Reese Mu[illegible]ma
[illegible] [illegible]abian
[illegible] [illegible]ad[illegible]
Matthew [illegible]ad[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]atka
[illegible] [illegible]ear[illegible]

[illegible] Ne[illegible]
[illegible]topher [illegible]
Kalan [illegible]
Kenneth [illegible]olar
[illegible] [illegible]
A[illegible] [illegible]ak
[illegible] [illegible]wak
Amanda O'Brien

Ke[illegible] O'[illegible]
[illegible]ennie Oate[illegible]
[illegible]ae [illegible]
[illegible] O[illegible]
[illegible] Owe[illegible]
Rac[illegible]e Pa[illegible]
[illegible] Park
Kayla Pa[illegible]

Avery Pearman
[illegible] Pe[illegible]
Amy Peeler
[illegible]my Peeler
[illegible] Pere[illegible]
[illegible] Pe[illegible]
[illegible] Perk[illegible]
[illegible]arolyn Peter[illegible]

[illegible] Peters
Stephanie Phipp[illegible]
[illegible] Pierce
[illegible] Pe[illegible]ala
A[illegible] P[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]w[illegible]
Me[illegible] Podle[illegible]
[illegible] P[illegible]wel[illegible]

Alexandra Prassas
A[illegible]ey P[illegible]ett
[illegible] Radako[illegible]
Benjamin Rae
Pe[illegible] Ram[illegible]
Mark Rap[illegible]
[illegible] Ra[illegible]
Jennifer Ray

After the game, all of the players on the freshmen team take a knee as they huddle together. Worn out from a strenuous game, the athletes look up at [illegible] as he tells the boys about the pride and [illegible] of their performance.

[illegible] Rea[illegible]
James Reed
Anthony Re[illegible]
[illegible] Re[illegible], Jr.
A[illegible]a Re[illegible]
Br[illegible]a[illegible] Re[illegible]
Ke[illegible]se[illegible] Richar[illegible]
Daniele Richard[illegible]

[illegible]a[illegible]y Rffett, Jr.
Rebecca Ri[illegible]ge
K[illegible]y[illegible]sta Rie[illegible]
[illegible]alto[illegible] Ri[illegible]e[illegible]a[illegible]t
[illegible]a R[illegible]
T[illegible]y R[illegible]
A[illegible]a Ri[illegible]e[illegible]a
[illegible]at[illegible]a[illegible] R[illegible]e[illegible]a

Daniele Roar[illegible]
[illegible]m[illegible]y Robb[illegible]
Matthew Robbins
[illegible]e[illegible]a R[illegible]ra
[illegible]e[illegible]a R[illegible]e[illegible]
[illegible]e R[illegible]e
[illegible]e Rodriguez
Joshua Ro[illegible]ins

[illegible]afat[illegible] R[illegible]e[illegible]
Yajaira Rosado
Stephanie R[illegible]e[illegible]
Jeremy Ro[illegible]
[illegible]e[illegible] Roy
James Ru[illegible]ew[illegible], Jr.
Me[illegible]sa Ru[illegible]el
Andrea Rya[illegible]

Jack Sal[illegible]ete
K[illegible]y[illegible]te [illegible]an[illegible]e[illegible]
Richard Sa[illegible]dage
Amber Sa[illegible]e[illegible]
Brady Sa[illegible]one
[illegible]eila[illegible] Sa[illegible]a[illegible]a[illegible]
Walter Sa[illegible]ow[illegible]ski
Sabrina Scegiel

Ke[illegible] Sc[illegible]k
Krista Schuitz
Amanda [illegible]e[illegible]
Anthony [illegible]e[illegible]
[illegible]a [illegible]e[illegible]a[illegible]
Benjamin [illegible]adey
Brian Shre[illegible]e
[illegible]a[illegible]d [illegible]ke[illegible]

Jessica Sie[illegible]e[illegible]
Amber [illegible]im[illegible]
Kristen [illegible]ge[illegible]
Theresa [illegible]
Je[illegible]a [illegible]iple
Jessica Skalka
Victoria [illegible]kub[illegible]
Kyle S[illegible]us[illegible]e[illegible]

[illegible]a[illegible]a[illegible] [illegible]mith
Leighan Smith
[illegible] [illegible]m[illegible]tka
M[illegible]ae[illegible] [illegible]bera[illegible]
Amanda [illegible]e[illegible]
[illegible]e e [illegible]mme[illegible]
Tyler Spoolstra
Amy [illegible]pu[illegible]ck

Kateyn Stanfield
Alexander [illegible]ta[illegible]ey
K[illegible]t[illegible] [illegible]ta[illegible]ey
Ja[illegible] [illegible]tear[illegible]
[illegible]at[illegible]a[illegible]e [illegible]tear[illegible]
William Andrew Stearn
Heather [illegible]tee[illegible]e
M[illegible]ae[illegible] Ste[illegible]e[illegible]

[illegible] Audrey [illegible] Sam[illegible]d Stringer [illegible]ody Su[illegible] [illegible]sten [illegible] Thoma[illegible] [illegible] Amy Tamietto Derek Terpstra

[illegible]dy Thie[illegible] Andrew Thode Ryan Thomas Robert Thomason Vickie Thomason Ricky Thompson Sheila Th[illegible] [illegible]istopher T[illegible]

Amanda Todd [illegible]ae[illegible] Todo[illegible]je[illegible] Sean Toomey [illegible]istina Torre[illegible] [illegible]a[illegible]y[illegible] Tratar Rut[illegible] Tra[illegible] Peter Trinidad, Jr. Jessica Tupper

A[illegible]na[illegible]a Turner Erik Twilla Kayla Tyka [illegible]tale Vanary [illegible]are[illegible] Va[illegible]e[illegible] [illegible]e[illegible] Vanw[illegible]me[illegible] Lawrence Vaughan [illegible] A[illegible]ew Veatc[illegible]

DAY ____________ DATE ____________

DEAR JOURNAL,

GOING INTO HIGH SCHOOL HAS BEEN A DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE THAN MY MIDDLE SCHOOL ONE, I EXPECTED TO BE OVERLOADED WITH SCHOOLWORK, BUT THE TEACHERS HAVE BEEN VERY LENIENT. WHAT STUCK OUT TO ME WAS HOW THE PEOPLE HERE ARE VERY DIVERSE, WHICH I LIKE A LOT. THE FIRST IMPRESSION WASN'T AT ALL WHAT I EXPECTED; FROM WHAT I'VE ENCOUNTERED I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR.

DAY MONDAY DATE ____________

DEAR JOURNAL,

TO BE MORE SPECIFIC THOUGH ON WHY I LOOK FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR THERE ARE THINGS LIKE MY CLASSES, MY OVERALL, ULTIMATELY FAVORITE CLASS IS LATIN. MR. SCHOTT IS A GENIUS AND IS THE FUNNIEST GUY EVER. BUT BESIDES CLASSES THERE IS OF COURSE LUNCH. MY FAVORITE THING IS CHICKEN, MASHED POTATOES AND ORANGE JUICE! AFTER SCHOOL THINGS SUCH AS POMS, THESE THINGS MAKE ME LOOK FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR

Veronica V[illegible]eal
Joshua V[illegible]em
[illegible]
[illegible]ye Vetter[illegible]
[illegible]car Vetter[illegible]
[illegible]e[illegible]e[illegible]a Vulpitta
[illegible]
Dexter Watkins

[illegible] We[illegible]
[illegible]a Whiting
A[illegible] Witte[illegible]
Jeff[illegible]ey Wilki[illegible]
Zachary [illegible]ford
[illegible] William
[illegible]
[illegible]iams

[illegible]tie W[illegible]
Kar[illegible]a W[illegible]
Matthew Wojas
A[illegible]ey Wood
Ve[illegible]a [illegible]
Ma[illegible]
Aa[illegible] Wright
Lauren Wright

[illegible]ole Wright
Rac[illegible]e[illegible] Wyatt
Ama[illegible]da Y[illegible]
[illegible]a Y[illegible]
Laura Zack
Me[illegible]a Zmier[illegible]
Ja[illegible] Zuider[illegible]et

DAY ______ DATE ______

ENTERING HIGH SCHOOL THERE WERE A FEW RUMORS I HEARD, ONE WAS THAT IF YOU JOIN A SPORT YOU MUST BE COMPLETELY DEVOTED TO IT; I'VE EXPERIENCED ENOUGH TO ABLE TO PROVE THAT TRUE, THROUGH POMS. BUT ENOUGH ABOUT MY FRESHMEN YEAR, I CAN NOT WAIT TO GET OUT OF THE WEST BUILDING. I CAN NOT WAIT TO BE ABLE TO SPEND THE WHOLE DAY IN EAST AND BE ABLE TO SEE ALL OF MY FRIENDS AGAIN.

DAY ______ DATE ______

ME DANCING A HIP HOP ROUTINE IN POMS AT HALF TIME AT A BASKETBALL GAME!

Faculty and Staff

[illegible]
[illegible]
Robert [illegible]
William Bodnar
[illegible] Brown
[illegible] Bustos
[illegible]
[illegible] Carter

[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]more
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]nely [illegible]app
[illegible]tina [illegible]
Barbara [illegible]
[illegible]

Kevin [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Maryann Eckhart
Katie [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] George
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Ronald Hancock
Mark [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]
Kathy [illegible]
[illegible]
Kathleen [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Robert [illegible]

Faculty

With a look of concentration on his face, music department chair Robert [illegible] conducts one of the many bands at the annual festival.

2004

A few moments with . . .

Mrs. Huerta

What moment in your teaching career stands out the most?

The first time I really ever internalized that I was in some ways effective at my craft was when I read my first "[illegible]" award letter. I was mostly embarrassed. I never realized students had so much fun in my classes and also learned so much. I received 4 "[illegible]" awards. Each time I was brought to tears and surprised at which students had [illegible] me.

What is the most embarrassing thing that has happened to you while you were teaching?

The kids like the one when I actually fell on both knees into my suitcase in the front of the class. It was unintentional. They tried not to laugh because they thought I was really hurt. Finally, they did as I was struggling to stand up and pretend that nothing at all had happened

What is the biggest thing your students will remember you for?

Perhaps the weird stories that I tell to get their attention on new vocabulary or new functions in Spanish. I like to tie things together with a little background information. Before, they laughed. Now they roll their eyes and beg me to stop. Some might remember my facial expressions and various vocal renditions.

A few moments with . . . Mrs. C. Carlson

Do you consider yourself a favorite among the student body?

Not really. I think the students appreciate my work, but do not perceive me as a "favorite."

What is the biggest thing that your students will remember you for?

I believe that my students will remember me for my work ethic and my caring as a teacher. I hope they remember who pushed them to try all things and to set high standards.

What, in your opinion, do you feel are the greatest benefits you have received throughout your teaching career?

Working with so many young people has helped me to become a better, [illegible] person. Also it has helped me to become a better parent.

Faculty

2004

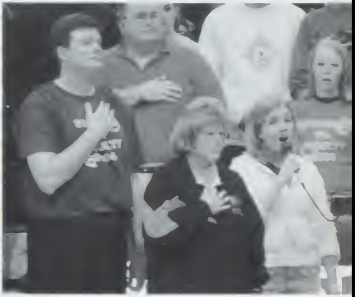
[illegible] the upcoming holiday, [illegible] Jacobs and senior Nick Williams enjoy each other's company at the Secret Pal social. Williams enjoyed being a secret Santa for Jacobs.

Beaming with pride, principal Richard Kirchner greets parents and guests at the A[illegible] banquet. The banquet was started to honor the top thirty students in the senior class.

FACULTY 2004

Taking a few moments to listen to senior [illegible] sing the National Anthem, [illegible] and Renee [illegible]urpa mentally prepare themselves for the Student Faculty B-ball game.

FACULTY 2004



[illegible] Harmon
[illegible]
Richard [illegible]er
[illegible]
Kathy Kotyuk
Richard Kretz
[illegible]da [illegible]
Thomas [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Barbara [illegible]
Bryan [illegible]
Jane [illegible]meyer
Mary [illegible]ute Brown
[illegible]
[illegible]
Barbara Ma[illegible]
Richard Ma[illegible]
Robert Matt[illegible]
[illegible]
Andrea Metzinger
[illegible]
[illegible]teer
Agrapina [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Ralph Murray
[illegible]da Parke[illegible]
R[illegible]t Parker
[illegible] Parker
Ruth Par[illegible]

Sometimes, teachers [illegible] experts for student en[illegible]ment. The band Three P[illegible] were brought in by Jason Pope so the students could hear [illegible] music.

The daily job of being a teacher is just not enough for some. Faculty members sometimes spend their time coaching and advising the various groups in the school.

[illegible] Pe[illegible]
[illegible] Pe[illegible]
[illegible] P[illegible]
[illegible] Pruitt
Jennifer Randel
[illegible] Redman
Aaron Riehle
[illegible] Rivera

[illegible] R[illegible]
[illegible] Ruge
[illegible] Ruzbasan
[illegible] Schmidt
[illegible] Schubert
Daryl Schultz
[illegible]
[illegible] Schrader

[illegible] Slamkowski
Debbie Smith
[illegible] Smith
[illegible] Somers
Barbara Spitler
[illegible] Spitzenberger
[illegible]
[illegible] Summers

Robert Tymer
[illegible]
William [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

A few moments with . . .

Mrs. L. Parker

What moment in your teaching career stands out the most?

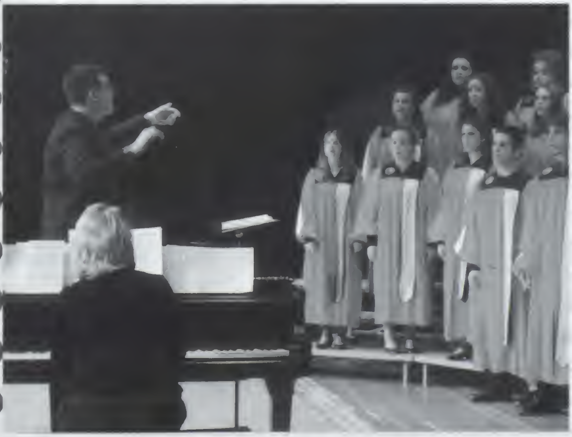
The things I remember the most are not in the daily classroom lessons, but the interactions that I have had with the students whether they have been one on one or group conversations. I have also really enjoyed the extra activities like my experience at Natural Helpers or the Academic teams.

What do you feel are the greatest benefits you have received throughout your teaching career?

Young people keep you young. Teaching keeps me motivated, makes me smile and laugh, and exposes me to a broad spectrum of thoughts and ideas. I receive 10 times what I am able to give.

What is the biggest thing your students will remember you for?

My students will probably remember my "funny voices" when I lapse into a different dialect and that I use food frequently when explaining things. For example, I like to say "give me meat and potatoes not marshmallow fluff." They also have a hard time believing that I ride a motorcycle.



Faculty 2004

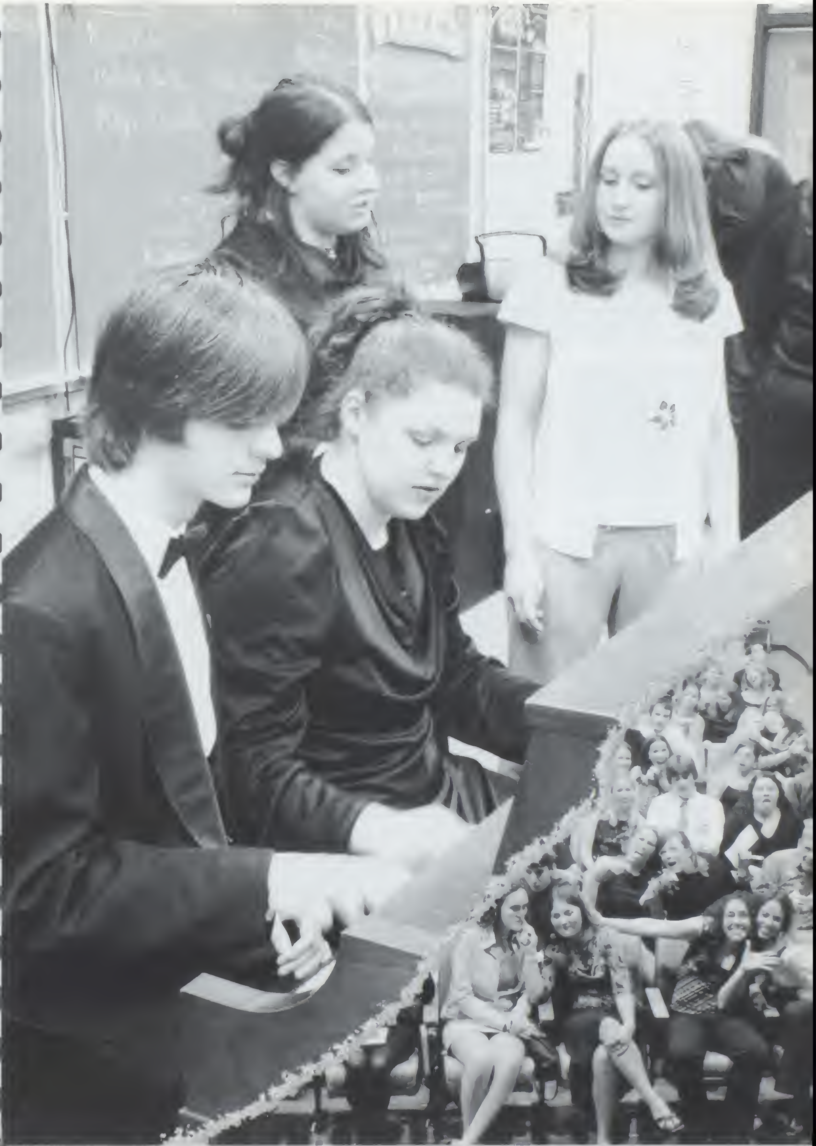
Music education is critical for the artistic success of students. Aar[illegible] Rie[illegible]e conducts the choir while Je[illegible]fer Randel accompanies on piano.

Many students throughout the walls of Portage High School participate in some form of an extracurricular activity whether it is Art Club, Marching Band, or Student Council, all are ways for students to meet new people, have a good time, and express themselves.

Organizations are usually sponsored by a faculty member and lead by a few students selected by the group involved. Most hold their meetings during after school hours however, gatherings during resource period and weekends are not excluded.

Some, such as the Foreign Language clubs, were started to further students learning experience outside of class and familiarize members more with the culture of the people studied. Other clubs began as a way for students to socialize and further develop their talents whether it be creating a mosaic, writing for a student publication, or performing a classical masterpiece.

Becoming a member of any club is sure to bring on many exciting experiences and could open up a student to see a whole new point of view on some important aspects of their future.



STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS CAN BE FOUND ANYWHERE. HERE FIVE ARE SPOTTED AT A BASKETBALL GAME CHEERING FOR THE BOY'S TEAM.

[illegible] Tenth Time, [illegible] las in student [illegible] converse with one [illegible] her. The junior [illegible] ated and pick[illegible] the theme [illegible] prom as part of the trad[illegible]

Patiently waiting to reveal the flag to the crowd, senior Joseph Arnold and junior Jonathon Hoffmann pose for a quick pic. Both show off the school spirit by wearing the Portage football shirt.

WHY did YOU * join student council?

I joined because I got to meet so many great people and because it is just a great place to be.

COURTNEY ROGERS SULT, 10

I joined because of all the great opportunities it opened to me, and all the people you meet while trying new things.

DONNY LENT, 10

THE FLOAT FOR THIS YEAR WAS CALLED "BARKIN UP THE WRONG TREE". STUDENTS DRESSED UP AS INDIANS TO SHOW THE SCHOOL SPIRIT IN THE PARADE.

THE MEETINGS FOR STUDENT COUNCIL ARE ALL VOLUNTARY. ANYONE CAN COME WHENEVER THEY WANT TO BE OPINIONATED AT THE MEETINGS HELD.

MAKING *it* ALL count

BY: JENNIFER L. WILT

EVERY YEAR, THE STUDENT COUNCIL COMES TOGETHER TO MAKE THE BEST YEAR POSSIBLE. THESE MEMBERS GO OUT INTO THE COMMUNITY TO MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE.

Student Council sponsors several of the school's annual events. These include Fall Homecoming, the Thanksgiving Food Drive, the Winter Coat Drive, the Winter Dance, the Ping Pong Tournament, the Senior Citizen's Ball, and Kiss the Seniors Goodbye. They also organize a one-day leadership conference for students from PHS and the middle schools.

"Student Council participates in many service projects, and it is very gratifying to know that high school students are able to change and impact people's lives. The rewards are not material. They may consist of a mere 'thank you' or a shy smile, but they make all the hard work worthwhile," explained junior Stephenie Chaddock.

The Student Council accepts anyone who wants to join and be opinionated. All that is required is to show up and participate in the meetings.

"People are instantly welcomed and informed about council business. If students come to meetings and decide this is an organization they really care about, they can opt to become a voting member. This means that the students will be able to vote for or against certain matters of business.

To become a voting member, students need to attend three consecutive Student Council meetings and chair one project. The students are usually given a smaller project to chair so they do not feel overwhelmed or become stressed," stated Chaddock.

Student Council has their officers in charge, but anyone can carry a strong voice.

"More often than not, the most hard-working and influential people in the council do not hold a position. This is because everyone is given an equal opportunity to participate and to show his/hers strengths through council activities. Anyone can voice his/her opinion or step up and take charge of a situation, and that is being a leader," explained Chaddock.

[illegible] year member [illegible] Niof[illegible] lingers around while the [illegible] come [illegible] a conclusion [illegible] Christmas in April. Niof[illegible] and [illegible] much of her fellow [illegible] takes time in Florida [illegible] spring break this year.

[illegible] member, freshman [illegible] Villers sits patiently during a meeting. Villers [illegible] participates in [illegible] football and wrestling this school year.

AT A STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING, SENIOR MARGARET SABIN CLOSES HER EYES TO THINK OF A THEME FOR FALL HOMECOMING. SABIN ALSO PLAYED ONE OF THE LEADING ROLES "ROXY" IN CHICAGO

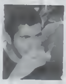
AT A STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING, SOPHOMORE BRENT COOK, LISTENS TO HIS OPTIONS CONCERNING FALL HOMECOMING. COOK WAS THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOPHOMORE CLASS FOR '04.

* WHY *did* YOU join *student* council? *

Up Close & Personal Again

"I joined student council because I got to meet people from all over Indiana and because it is a lot of fun."
Jasmine Caraballo, 10

"Student council was not only a fun way to get involved, but it was one step closer to world domination."
Kimberly Payne 10



"The experience of meeting new people and the relationships you build with them."
Rachel Whitmer, 10

"It is one of the biggest organizations and I just recognized how many opportunities if offered and quickly realized how much fun it is."
David Hinojosa, 11

[illegible]

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBER, SENIOR NICHOLAS WILLIAMS SHYLY CHEESES AT GYM. WILLIAMS PARTICIPATES IN DOG SLEDDING DURING WINTER SEASON.

Anyone can join student council. Juniors Kari Campbell, David Hinojosa, Stephanie Chaddock, and Brittany Gill listen to their officers during a meeting after school.

Student council sponsors the whole week of fall homecoming. The parade is the ultimate finale where anyone can join in and walk with the float.

WINNER OF FALL HOMECOMING WAS OUR VERY OWN PRESIDENT, SENIOR CRYSTAL DELGADO. STUDENT COUNCIL ORGANIZES AND CHOOSES WHAT WILL BE THE THEME OF EACH DAY OF HOMECOMING WEEK.

During the course of the year the medical classes help out at the elementary schools. Juniors Cara Pocernik and Gabrielle Bassett gave a presentation which told the kids how to properly brush their teeth.

While in Indianapolis the B.P.A team takes time to get a group picture. The team went down for a competition, but also had a lot of fun.

One of the [illegible] EPA [illegible] go to a [illegible] Junior Paige Ray [illegible] time [illegible] with the district EPA [illegible] state [illegible] in Indianapolis.

WHY did YOU get involved in BPA?

PAIGE ROY, 11

"I wanted to work at the student credit union at school and by taking the Banking and Credit class I was automatically enrolled in BPA."

NICOLE BEAL, 11

"BPA is an organization that prepares you for the business world and I wanted to be a part of that."

REBECCA TURPIN, 11

"I got involved in BPA when I enrolled for the Banking and Credit class. I really injoyed going to the State conference with them."

WHAT Is HOSA/BPA?

BY: MEGAN M. RICHMOND

HOSA: HEALTH OCCUPATIONS FOR STUDENTS OF AMERICA, IS AN ORGANIZATION for students who want to pursue a career in the medical field.

"I want to become a cardiologist and HOSA has helped show me what I could be prepared for after I graduate and pursue a medical career." states junior, Steven Rosenbaum.

BPA, Business Professionals of America is another organization that can help students with a future career, just not in medicine. Like HOSA, BPA helps the students by teaching them lessons that they can later use at their workplace.

"I have had many life experiences that I couldn't have experienced without BPA. BPA has really helped me develop as a person and has helped my future career in business." says junior Rachael Sarson."HOSA has been a reality check for me. I never realized how hard the medical field can be." Says junior Lindsey Warfield.

Whether HOSA students are job shadowing or BPA students are running the student credit union, they can all say that these organizations have helped them to prepare for life after high school.

* HOW did BPA/HOSA help you? *

Up Close a Personal Again

"HOSA has given me some insight to what a future in health care will intail."

*Elizabeth Koonce, 11

"BPA has made me more confident when I go out and apply for jobs"

*Jessica Levin, 11

"BPA has helped me with my job at a marketing company selling technology."

*Mark Hallmen, 11

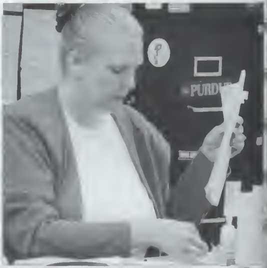
"BPA hasn't really helped me because we barely do anything bu the contests."

*Andrew Colvin, 11

During his dental class, junior David Kendall went on a trip to one of the elementary schools. Kendall helped by passing out papers to the students and helping with the presentations.

[illegible]

[illegible] she taught the [illegible] here at the [illegible] was always [illegible] her students on [illegible]



[illegible] the health [illegible] Christina [illegible] to shadow [illegible] medical position that are in the clinic. On the day Webber [illegible] shadow and assist a dentist.

[illegible] you [illegible] and show you how [illegible] The [illegible] were taught the proper ways [illegible] their [illegible] by [illegible] health [illegible]

VOLUNTEERING *goes* A LONG way

BY: ALISHA M. LIRA

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IS A REWARDING ORGANIZATION INVOLVING SOME OF THE MOST CARING STUDENTS AT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL. THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY UNITES STUDENTS THAT VOLUNTEER FOR THE COMMUNITY AND HELP OUT WITH NUMEROUS ACTIVITIES FOR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL.

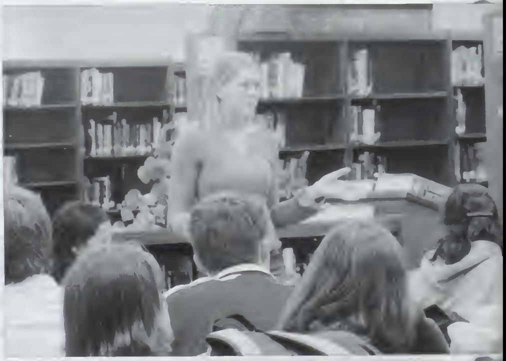
Volunteering is satisfying within itself, but when you volunteer with your friends it can make an enjoyable experience even better.

There are many reasons why students join National Honor Society. Some of the National Honor Society member's joined the organization because of the feeling of giving something back to the community and their peers.

Some people think that being in National Honor Society will make you a more compassionate person, and that is what its members enjoyed it so much. Next years Vice President, junior Steve Lehmann explained what he has enjoyed his first year being a National Honor Society member.

"I enjoy National Honor Society because it gives its members the chance to better understand and help those who are less fortunate and in need. It is hard for people with the blessings we have to fully realize how difficult life is for the majority of others in this world, and National Honor Society helps us become aware of how lucky we are, while making a positive influence around us."

Despite the challenges of balancing school, extra curricular activities, sports and work, National Honor Society members pull it off with a grade point average of at least a 3.3.



TOWARDS THE END OF A MEETING, SENIOR ALLISON SATTLER ADDRESSES THE MEMBERS. SATTLER CHAIRED SEVERAL EVENTS WITHIN THE NHS DURING HER TWO YEARS.

While whispering during a meeting, historian Elizabeth Sefcik and secretary Kara Lane talk about what is not on the meeting's agenda

AFTER A MEETING, SENIOR KEVIN COFFMAN GIVES INFORMATION TO ONE OF HIS FELLOW STUDENTS. HE HAS BEEN IN NHS FOR OVER A YEAR.

WHAT IS THE MOST *rewarding* aspect?

It is rewarding when looking forward to the graduation and wearing the graduation tassels.

TASHA PAPACHRONIS, 11

Knowing that your making a difference in the within the community is rewarding.

PAIGE ROY, 11

[illegible]

[illegible]

PRESIDENT SENIOR ANDREA NAJAR ADDRESSES THE GROUP ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS. NAJAR WILL BE ATTENDING BALL STATE UNIVERSITY IN THE FALL.

AFTER TEACHERS HAD MADE THEIR DECISIONS, SENIOR SHERRI L ACK HANGS UP A BANNER WITH EVERY IND VIDUAL'S NAME UPON T THEREFORE TING HE WHOLE SCHOOL KNOW OF THE NHS MEMBERS FOR THE 03-04 YEAR.

AFTER RECEIVING CHORDS, SENIOR TIMOTHY HYDE STRUTS HIS STUFF WITH PRIDE. HYDE SPORTE HIS CHORDS AT GRADUATION AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

While conversing at the senior good-bye banquet, seniors Daniel Lahey, and Jerald Balta take time out to pose for a photo. Balta enjoyed a slice of pizza along with his classmates.

Many people might see NHS as a serious thing, which in some cases it is exactly that. Members always find time to make the organization fun while being serious at the same time.

Before the annual NHS banquet, senior [illegible]than [illegible] [illegible] table cloths on the tables. [illegible] has [illegible] National Honor Society for two years.

AT ONE OF THE MEETINGS, JUNIOR DANIEL BIBY POSES WITH AN UMBRELLA BIBY WAS CONSIDERED A MEMBER WHO COULD ALWAYS BRING LAUGHTER TO THE GROUP THIS WAS DAN'S FIRST YEAR ON NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY.

AS THE ACADEMIC SUPER BOWL IS ABOUT TO START, THE TEAMS RELAX AND REVIEW THEIR SUBJECTS. THE EVENT CONSISTS OF FIVE TOPICS.

TRY *showing* YOUR smarts

BY: KRISAN CIESZKIEWICZ

STUDENTS GIFTED WITH OR WISHING TO EXPAND THEIR FIELD OF KNOWLEDGE COME TOGETHER EACH YEAR TO PARTICIPATE IN ONE OF THE SCHOOL'S ACADEMIC TEAMS.

The teams include quiz bowl, which is like "Jeopardy," but played on teams; spell bowl, focusing on the spelling of words; academic decathlon, where students compete in ten categories, such as literature, economics, and speech; and the academic super bowl, which is composed of five categories of English, mathematics, social studies, science, and art/music.

Whether one participates in one of these teams or all of them, they are sure to develop better study habits and do better academically in school. Some students wish to share their knowledge with others, while some join the teams simply to have fun.

"Being on the academic team also enables one to develope more friendships and expand their into different areas of subjects," stated senior Jerald Balta.

Either way, participating in an academic team is a beneficial and positive way for students to spend their time.

To prepare for the Academic Super Bowl, senior Victoria Keyser looks through her notes. She also participates in Spell Bowl and Quiz Bowl.

WHILE WAITING FOR HOBART AT A QUIZ BOWL MEET, FRESHMAN OWEN WILLIAMS, SOPHOMORE KEVIN CASIMER, AND SENIOR JERALD BALTA WARM UP WITH PRACTICE QUESTIONS. QUIZ BOWL IS A TEAM EFFORT TESTING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE.

With their hands on the buzzer, junior Alexander Passo and senior Nicole Wilcox compete in a quiz bowl competition. Wilcox joined the team to expand her "field of knowledge."

BEFORE COMPETING IN THE ACADEMIC SUPER BOWL, SENIORS ASHLEY SITKO AND AMANDA WATHERN SIGN IN. THEY SUCCESSFULLY ANSWERED VARIOUS QUESTIONS CONCERNING ART AND MUSIC

* WHAT have YOU gained from the team? *

Up Close and Personal Again

"The speech and interview portions of Decathlon helped prepare me for real life situations."
*Jacqueline Rice 11

"It gave me the opportunity to share my knowledge while learning to balance various activities."
*Timothy Hatton, 11

"I had to learn higher level math, such as calculus. I am now one step ahead of my classmates."
*Svetlana Pekovic, 10

"I feel I have learned to understand literature and what I should pay attention to when I read."
*Shaun Gannon, 11

ACCEPTING HER AWARD WITH GRACE JUNIOR WHITNEY BOWMAN ABSORBS THE MOMENT WHERE ALL EYES ARE ON HER. [illegible] WORK HAVE LED TO THE SATISFACTION OF BEING PART OF AN HONORED GROUP

AS THE CROWD LOOKS ON IN AWE, AN EXPERT SWORDSMAN SHARES HIS GIFT. THE ONLY EXPLANATION FOR SUCH SKILL IS A STRONG WORK ETHIC AND DEDICATION.

WHY did YOU* join your club?

I just really like the Spanish language and I enjoy learning about the Spanish culture.

EDWARD GIORDANO, 9

It basically just gives me something to do to keep me out of trouble.

JASMINE CARBALLO, 12

CANDLES ARE A TRADITION DURING THE INDUCTION CEREMONY. ONLY A SELECT FEW FROM THE STUDENT BODY ARE CHOSEN TO BE PART OF THE ELITE FOREIGN LANGUAGE HONOR SOCIETY

OUT of MANY one

BY: DEREK G. ANDREWS

AS THE MELTING POT OF AMERICAN CULTURE GROWS INCREASINGLY UNIFIED, PORTAGE HAS BECOME A DELICIOUS PLACE TO LIVE.

As Portage continues to grow as a community, it continually transforms into a mixture of different ethnicities, religions, and cultures. Here at Portage High School, these differences are celebrated in the form of the Foreign Language Honor Society. The FLHS is a school sponsored organization where different cultures can celebrate their idiosyncrasies as part of the American culture.

In an age where bigotry is expressed by fighting and war, it is good to see differences in culture expressed in a more positive way,

Indubitably, it must be said that our responsibility, both as a student body and as the next generation of Americans, is first toward America itself. In order for the 'melting pot' culture to be a success, we must place our origin after our present status, not as Germans, Spaniards, or Latinos, but as Americans.

THE PASSING OF THE CANDLES AMONGST EACH OTHER IS A SYMBOL OF THE INDUCTION INTO THE FLHS. TO BE INDUCTED, TWO YEARS OF A FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND A CERTAIN GRADE POINT AVERAGE IS REQUIRED.

WHILE STUDYING, FRIENDLY FRESHMAN EDWARD GIORDANO LOOKS OVER SOME PAPERS. THOSE INVOLVED IN ANY CLUBS KNOW GIORDANO AS BEING A HUGE AMERICAN IDOL FAN.

AT THE INDUCTION TO FLHS, MRS. LYNN HUERTA GIVES THE CAMERA A BIG SMILE. HUERTA WILL BE RETIRING AT THE END OF THIS YEAR AND WILL BE GREATLY MISSED BY ALL.

WHEN A STUDENT RECEIVES MANY A'S IN THEIR FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLASS, THEY GET THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE IN FLHS. JUNIOR TEGAN ORTIZ RECEIVED AN AWARD FOR HER EXCELLENCE IN SPANISH CLASS HER JUNIOR YEAR.

Members of the [illegible] group together [illegible] while advertising their [illegible]. The chess club plays against one another in a [illegible] one on one match.

AT THE FOREIGN LANGUAGE HONOR SOCIETY SOPHOMORE SAMANTHA TAMPIER RECEIVES HER AWARD FOR HER EXCELLENCE IN SPANISH CLASS.

French club members all gather together for a group photo. Anyone can join the french club, but it would be good to know french.

AT THE SPANISH FIESTA, SENORA HITES PREPARES THE DRINKS AND THE FOOD. EVERY YEAR A FIESTA IS HELD FOR ALL THE PARTICIPATING MEMBERS.

[illegible]

While showing off his actions, senior Aaron O'Riley carefully took time to perfect each move for his speech. The team usually met for an hour on Mondays.

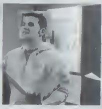
[illegible] Aaron O'Riley performs [illegible] his speech [illegible] and fellow teammate [illegible] O'Riley [illegible] within the [illegible]

Before a meet senior Bethany Webb performs her speech several times to ensure a great outcome on her performance. Webb has traveled with the team to many different district meets.

DID you LIKE the *overall season?

It was alright, I enjoyed being able to compete at the best of my ability for the team.

AARON O'RILEY 12



I enjoyed it, I was glad that I got to compete like I have in the years past.

BETHANY WEBB 12

PRACTICE your HARDEST every day

BY: KELLEY K. YUDT

PHS SPEECH TEAM GOES THROUGH WITH THE SEASON ALTHOUGH ONLY HAVING FEW MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN MATCHES ACROSS THE DISTRICT. ALL MEMBERS HAVE BEEN ON THE TEAM FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR, AND CARRIED ON THE DEED OF COMPETING.

Speaking obviously plays a major part in everyone's daily routine. The Speech Team practiced their vocalizations to perfection every Monday for an hour or longer after school. Information for upcoming meets were given out on Wednesday in hopes to get spirits up before each meet. The team got to know their new coach Darrell Dominic whom taught them new techniques and speech forms.

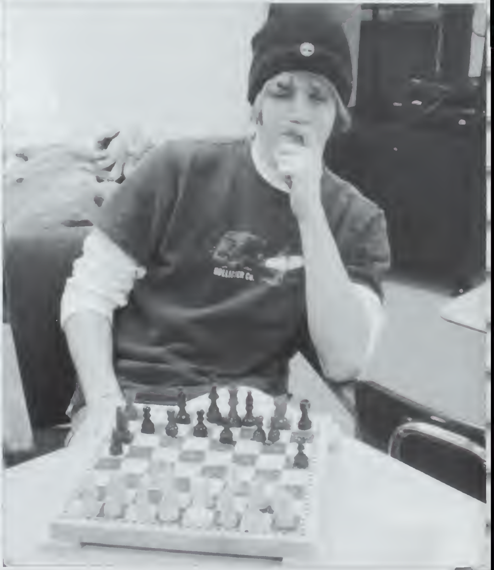
"The category that I compete in is called radio." Junior Jessica Hatfield addressed. "The time of the event varies within each meet. When I attend college, I would like to major in some type of radio or communication, I would like to find an occupation in that sort of field." Hatfield stated.

Competitions were held all over the district. Although other teams practice their speeches to excellence in front of things such as a mirror or window, our team practiced in front of each other, family members and also their coaches to get ready for each meet.

"I practice my speech all the time at home and in front of my team mates." Senior Aaron O'Riley stated. "I just don't practice in front of mirrors and walls like all of the crazy schools in the district do."

Although the team wasn't as big as last year, the few members put every bit of effort into their competitions. Next year will call for more members, which will hopefully make a bigger team.

For this years club, the co-presidents are seniors Jagpreet Chahal and Ashley Flagg. Flagg has been playing chess for fun for twelve years and Chahal has been playing for six years.



EVERY WEDNESDAY SOPHOMORE ALEXANDER SUPP WOULD PLAY A GOOD GAME OF CHESS HE HAS BEEN PLAYING FOR TEN YEARS AND HE ENJOYS BECAUSE HELPS QUENCH HIS THIRST FOR FUN.

EACH WEEK ON WEDNESDAYS THE CHESS CLUB MEETS AT TEAM COACH MRS. JOCUS'S ROOM TO PLAY A COUPLE OF GAMES OF CHESS SOPHOMORE BRENDEN MULROE PLAYS WITH ONE OF HIS TEAM MATES AND CONSIDERS A MOVE TO USE FOR HIS STRATEGY PLAYING.

KEEP your PAWNS off

BY: MEREDITH K. MCLEOD

ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS THE CHESS CLUB ASSEMBLE TO PLAY THE GAME. THERE ARE ABOUT THIRTEEN YOUNG TEENAGERS INVOLVED IN THE CHESS CLUB AND THEY ALL SEEM to be interested in the competition. The players time occupied with the game vary from eleven years to just under a year. Many of the players have been inspired to play chess by something or someone in their lives.

"I am good in chess but I am not a master in chess. I know the famous quote "Practice makes man perfect" and I will try and try my best and I will eventually be a master in chess." states senior Jagjeet Chanal.

This year's co-presidents are seniors Ashley Flagg seemed interested in attending a chess club meeting. She had always enjoyed playing chess so she decided it would be the best idea to go to a chess meeting.

"I play chess for fun. It always makes me think." Says senior Ashley Flagg.

Most of the players on the team seem entirely interested in the game. There are a certain amount of inside jokes that they members share with one another. In view of the jokes that go along with the game, there is also complete concentration for chess. There might be jokes in chess club, but as their saying goes they don't horse around. Some of the members even have a certain game strategies while playing chess.

"One of the strategies that I have is, I always try to capture the Queen to see the other players face. It's simply a hoot!" says Flagg.

Considering all of the time and attentiveness that go into the chess club, they all seem to have an excellent time. Whether they just play for fun after school on Wednesday's or play because they have absolute passion for it, they all have a great time.

"On an ending note, chess isn't just for nerds anymore." states Flagg.

DO you HAVE a *chess strategy?

I always try to capture the Queen to see the other players face. It is always fun.

ASHLEY FLAGG, 12

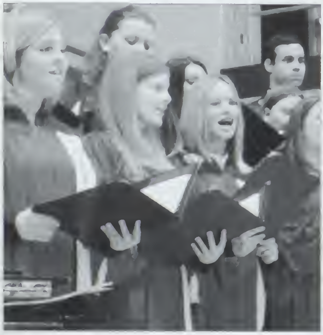
I just play the game and concentrate on what I am doing. Just play physical.

ALEXANDER SUPP, 10

YOUNG TEENAGERS CAN EVEN JOIN THE CHESS CLUB. FRESHMAN MACK WOZNIAK THINKS ABOUT A NEXT MOVE FOR THE GAME OF CHESS.

AT THE FESTIVAL, SENIOR EMILY CLIVER SINGS AND DANCES ALONG WITH HER FELLOW CHORALIERS. AS A SENIOR, SHE HAD ANTICIPATED FESTIVAL ALL YEAR.

The 5th [illegible] of the [illegible]ders was once again asked [illegible] play at the secret pal social spon[illegible] by the student council. They performed various tunes from their holiday concert that night for entertainment.



[illegible]

BEFORE CONTEST, THE CHOIRS PERFORMED A CONCERT FOR A WAY TO PRACTICE. JUNIOR SHANNON STUTLER AND SOPHOMORE NICOLE LUNN DANCED AND SANG TO "YOU CAN'T STOP THE BEAT" FROM THE MUSICAL HAIRSPRAY.

THE CHORALIERS SANG THEIR LAST CONCERT AT FESTIVAL. THEY SANG AND DANCED TO ONE OF THEIR NUMBERS FOR THAT NIGHT

At [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and Samantha [illegible] [illegible] and dance for their [illegible] [illegible] of the year. Their final experience performing at the high school was very emotional for them.

THE power OF girls

BY: ELIZABETH A. SEFCIK

FESTIVAL THIS YEAR WAS A VERY EMOTIONAL CONCERT FOR THE CHORALIERS. EVERY YEAR, IT IS A WAY FOR THE SENIORS TO HAVE THEIR LAST CONCERT OF THEIR senior year, and it is also a way to say good-bye to their teachers and their fellow peers. It also shows what lies ahead for the other students joining choir.

"Many people get emotional because its the last concert of the school year, however it is great to get together with the middle schools and celebrate the gift of music." states senior Daniel Castro.

Some of the choralier members say that just about every concert is they're favorite. Each concert is a memorable one for the chorus members, and therefore all of the concerts are the most favorite.

Most of the chorus members had in some way been inspired to join choraliers. In order to be involved in choir, you must be in a choir class first and then try out for choraliers.

"I was inspired when I was in middle school when I would watch the choraliers in at festival each year. I have always wanted to be a part of that group when I would watch them." states Samantha Newbeck.

Choraliers definitely have considerable leaders. One significant leader in choraliers is the senior Emily Cliver.

"Emily Cliver is definitely considered a leader of Choraliers. She is always there when you need her and she has been through a lot. She gives great advice also." states junior Samantha Lingenfelter

Another immense part of choraliers is the bond that they all share. Before the choraliers go out to perform they give one another a "choralier kiss". In order for a person to give a choralier kiss, they make a fist, kiss the back of their hand, and then place the back of their hand up against another persons hand.

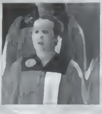
"We do this because it really has been a tradition ever since Choraliers has been around. It is a way for us to feel good before we go out and perform." states senior Emily Cliver.

HOW DO you FEEL* about your new teacher?

He has brought a lot of good to us. His teaching methods will help us win contest.

I think he is amazing. Our discipline is ten times better this year.

SAMANTHA NEWBECK, 11



KRISTIN FEDOR, 11

MANY choir KIDS. inspired

BY: MEREDITH MCLEOD

CHOIR IS AN INSPIRATION ALL ITS OWN. MANY OF THE STUDENTS INVOLVED JOINED BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN SINGING SINCE THEY WERE YOUNG AND THEY CANNOT SEEM TO STAY AWAY.

Others have been inspired some way or some how to join choir. Either way, choir has been a huge success for the school.

"Choir teaches you to work together and be a team," states sophomore Nicole Lunn.

Not only has choir been an inspiration to the students, but this year, the choirs had the opportunity to get a new choir instructor. His name is Aaron Riegle and this is his first year at Portage High School.

"He really is direct on what he is teaching," states junior Holly Benz, adding that, "Mr. Riegle is all about performing our best and doing what we're capable of, yet when the concerts are over we reflect on how we did."

Considering the fact that he is a new teacher and younger than expected, he has a lot to offer to the choirs. He purchased new things for the program and teaches them things that they never had learned previous years. Although his teaching methods are different, he is certainly a benefit to the singers. One thing that Mr. Riegle enforces this year is practice. Practicing for concerts before hand is an extremely important part of choir, and any other organization that puts on a show.

"We practice every day in class and I sometimes feel that we need more time," states senior Sheila Farley.

The choir mostly sings religious songs and gospel tunes at each of their concerts. Some of the students don't really enjoy singing the religious songs, but they feel that the concerts are wonderful and that their songs that they sing really showcase their true talent.

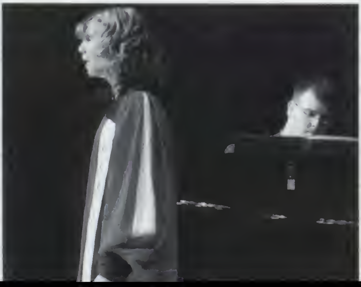
"I, personally, would like to perform songs that are more upbeat," comments junior Jeanna Stolarz.

The choir had the opportunity to preform in a Christmas Concert and the Spring Festival. Each year all the choirs of Portage get together and sing in the Portage High School East Gymnasium. They wear t-shirts with blue jeans for a more casual look and the grade-schools students sing from the bleachers, a much different environment when compared to choir robes and risers which are more typical of the atmosphere.

"My favorite concert this year had to be the Christmas concert because we had awesome songs that truly showed off our musical talent," remarked Carley Shaff.

All in all the symphonic and concert choirs had fun and improved greatly over the course of this year.

The Girls Glee choir sang at one of their final concert of the year. Everyone found the year to be educational and enjoyable for the girls



For pre-recital senior Mary Dramchak sang a solo for the audience. Dramchak has been in choir for a very long time that it is essential to her that she stays committed to choir in high school

AT FESTIVAL, THE SYMPHONIC CHOIRS SANG ONE OF THEIR LAST TUNES OF THEIR HIGH SCHOOL CAREER. FOR THE SENIORS, FESTIVAL IS A VERY EMOTIONAL NIGHT, AND MEANS A LOT TO THEM IN THE END.

The girls glee choir this year sang in celebration to the contest. The choirs put on a show before their contest, called the "pre-contest concert". The girls glee sang and danced to two different songs that night.

WHAT *is* JAZZ band?

BY: TAHANA M. GOOD

JAZZ SHOWED UP AROUND THE EARLY 1900'S, BUT IT WASN'T UNTIL THE EARLY 1920'S that Jazz was not only just heard, but the new craze for people everywhere. It was known as the "Jazz Age".

"I think you need to have a good feel for the rhythmic stale and are capable of producing and energetic sound," is sophomore, Melissa Latronica's opinion on what you need before you enter this class.

Jazz music was played by many great musicians, such as Louis Armstrong, Cab Calloway, and Billie Holiday. These musicians not only set the standard, but brought out what would be the most popular music for years to come.

"It means having a fun and relaxing educational process. Here's a saying that we use: "RELAX AND ENJOY", is sophomore, Mandi Rance's favorite early morning saying.

Jazz band is a class that many Portage High School students take. During this course you will learn about Jazz from when it first began up until the most recent music played.

While playing the piano, sophomore Brittany Lesniewski watches director Robert Sumner. Lesniewski not only plays the piano, but the clarinet as well.

The jazz band performed their last concert on the summer. Auditions have to be made in order to be a member of jazz band.

IN ORDER TO PLAY THE SLIDING TROMBONE, YOU HAVE TO HAVE A GOOD EAR, BECAUSE THERE IS NO SET NOTE. DURING THE RENAISSANCE ERA, THE TROMBONE WAS CALLED A SACKBUT.

WHAT does JAZZ* band mean to you?

DEREK SHELTON, 12

"To me, Jazz Band is a different spectrum of music that helped change the way that I think and play as a musician to make me a more well-rounded musician."

COREY NIGH, 11

"Jazz Band means a love of music of the jazz genre and appreciation of the effort that goes into making."

ELIZABETH EWEN, 12

"Jazz Band is a fun experience that opens the door to all types of Jazz music and we sometimes get to listen to some really great musicians."

In any band, the drums keep the beat. Senior Derek Shelton holds the band together by giving them a beat to follow.

THE SAXOPHONE WAS INVENTED IN 1840 BY ADOLPHE SAX. ALSO, THE SAXOPHONE IS MOSTLY HEARD IN JAZZ AND POP MUSIC.

THE HOMECOMING PARADE IS A CHANCE FOR BAND MEMBERS TO SHOW OFF THEIR SKILLS. HERE, SENIOR, RACHEL COOPER PLAYS THE TUBA.

PERCUSSIONISTS ARE THE BACKBONE OF THE EVERY BAND SENIORS, DEREK SHELTON AND ADAM WILFOND MARCH ONTO THE FIELD.

TRY this IN here

BY: TERI HARRINGTON

With marching band becoming a class this year there was a lot of talk about less practice, more time in the classroom, and the flipping around of schedules to make room for their might instruments.

"I think that it becoming a class is okay because we have more time to practice, but it is for a grade now so if we choose to miss it goes against us." stated junior Samantha Lingenfelter.

Although practices were during school they were also over the summer as usual. Working hard on the concrete around the school paid off when they showed off their skills at the local parades and various competitions.

A lot of students participating in marching band also devote their time to pep band. Pep band plays their instruments to cheering on their team while rieling up the crowd, but it is a much more relaxed environment.

"Pep band is a little bit different because we can just let loose and have fun instead of being so serious about everything." said senior Joshua Mitchell.

Whether cheering on the football or basketball teams, these bands will never leave fans with a single dull moment. They are sure to always provide a soundtrack to never be forgotten.

* WHAT's YOUR favorite * part of marching or pep band?

"My favorite part would be jamming out cover songs during half-time."

*Justin Wilbanks, 11

"The competitions! We did excellent for just coming out of the closet."

*Amanda Feeney, 10

"The time I spent with the marhing band was fun. We had some good laughs."

*Cristen Coffey, 10

"I absolutely loved the costumes! They were my favorite part. Definitely."

*Jeffrey Wilken, 10

PLAYING THE GUITAR IS A HARD TASK FOR MANY. JUNIOR CHRIS BOLINT NOT ONLY PLAYS, BUT ALSO GIVES LESSONS IN HIS SPARE TIME.

MANY INSTRUMENTS ARE USED IN EACH AND EVERY BAND. SOPHOMORES, JARED BLASTIORIS AND MELISSA LATRONICA LEAD THEIR SECTION.

BEFORE AND DURING EACH FOOTBALL GAME, MARCHING BAND ENTERTAINS THE CROWDS. THEY ARE LED BY SENIOR, THEODORE CRAIG.

WITH SCHOOL SPIRIT BLASTING OUT ALL AROUND HER, SENIOR, ELIZABETH EWEN HEARTILY PLAYS HER TRUMPET.

While in advanced band class, junior Jeremy Bucy is practicing a song on his tuba. The tuba is the lowest of the brass wind instruments.

In advanced band, seniors Lindsey Speer and Rachel Cantu enjoy playing the flute. "Through band, I have made great friends and great memories," says Speer.

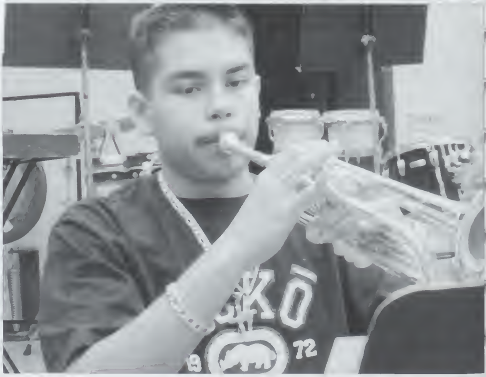
WHAT *was* THE * best *part of* band?

My most memorable band experience is playing America the Beautiful at the Spring Festival.

This year we went on a field trip to Chicago to see the symphony orchestra. We got to eat lunch with friends and walk around Chicago.

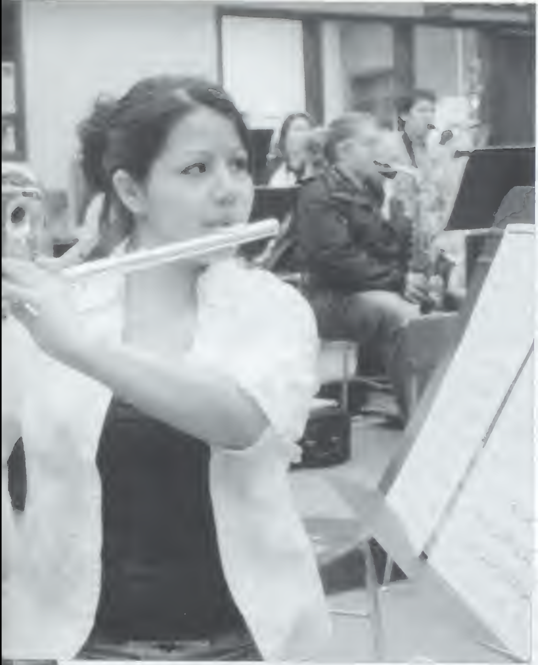
ASHLEY EDMONDS, 11

KANDICE WALLSKOG, 11



ALSO A PARTICIPANT IN PEP BAND AND WINTER DRUMLINE, SENIOR JOSHUA MITCHELL IS A [illegible] IN [illegible] BAND AT THE BAND SPRING [illegible] AL HE GA [illegible] AN [illegible] THE DRUMS

In preparation for an upcoming concert, sophomore Rodney Carmona is practicing a song on the trumpet. The trumpet is a brass wind musical instrument, which is a key instrument to dance and jazz bands.



THE love OF music

BY: KRISAN CIESZKIEWICZ

SCHOOL BANDS BRING TOGETHER MUSICALLY GIFTED STUDENTS TO SHARE AND DEVELOP THEIR TALENT AND LOVE FOR MUSIC EACH YEAR.

"I have had a great love for music before I started school. Band is the best part of the day and it keeps me sane," says sophomore Cristen Coffey.

Depending on the level a student is at, there is beginning, intermediate, and advanced band one can take. They all display the same work ethic though.

Band gives the opportunity for students to take a class in which they love and look forward to each day. It is a refreshing elective to take at school.

"I have always wanted to play drums since I was a kid and when I found out I could take a class and learn, I was stoked. I have loved band since grade eight," says junior Jessica Szabo.

Some students enjoy playing music so much that they wish to pursue music in their future, or keep music as an ongoing hobby in their life.

"I love playing the oboe and I hope to make a profession of it," says sophomore Rachel Hewitt, a member of intermediate band.

Not only do band students share the love of music, but they also take music classes because they enjoy having Mr. Michael DePasquale, Mr. Robert Symer, and Mr. William Timmerman as their teachers.

Junior Justin Wilbanks says, "Mr. Timmerman and Mr. Symer are cool cats to work with and make band more enjoyable. Band has to be one of my favorite classes ever."

In the end, band is a place where students can come together and play the music they love.

"It is just a big group of normal kids who love to play music and want to share it with the world," says sophomore Robert Liesch.

AT THE SPRING FESTIVAL, BEGINNING CONCERT BAND PERFORMED THE THEME SONG FOR "SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS." NOT ONLY DID THEY PLAY THE TUNE, BUT THEY PERFORMED THE SPEAKING PORTIONS AS WELL.

THE BEST CHAIRS FROM BAND, ARE USED IN ORCHESTRA FOR AN ACCOMPANIMENT, CALLED THE "ORCHESTRA WINDS." JUNIORS ASHLEY PERISH AND BRIANA PRAVEL PLAY ALONG TO A SELECTION FROM "PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN."

IT IS a MELODIC thing

BY: MEREDITH MCLEOD

SOME MIGHT CONSIDER ORCHESTRA TO BE A BIG JOKE. NEVER THE LESS IT IS FAR FROM THAT. YES THERE ARE OF COURSE THE OCCASIONAL GOOFINGS AROUND IN CLASS. None the less, once it comes time for concerts, it is no longer a laughing matter. This year the Orchestra had the opportunity to do many different things, from going to Chicago to see the Chicago Symphony Orchestra to having people from Ball State come and watch them, this year the Orchestra is giving a whole new look on it all.

"My favorite memory of Orchestra this year was going to see the Chicago Symphony. It was really fun an exciting to see a professional orchestra." States junior Timothy Slatton.

Ball State representatives came to Portage High School this year to critique the orchestra and gave them advice. They came to judge them and let them know what they needed to change that afternoon. Right after school that day, they played for the representatives of Ball State until their concert that night. They stayed all day until they perfected their tunes.

"When the Ball State teachers came to help us with our music, it really was a great moment for me." States junior Heather Hufgard.

The holiday concert this year included traditional holiday tunes such as "Sleigh Ride". They also played other unrecognizable tunes such as "The Nutcracker Suites" and "Mother Ginger" and "March of the Nutcracker", "Sugar Plum Fairy" and other songs from the Nutcracker.

"This holiday season we got to play some really great music at our concert. I enjoyed playing the "Nutcracker Suites" this year," says senior Nichole Donohue.

Everyone has once in his or her lifetime had to practice for something. The word "practice" is a very important word for the students of Orchestra.

AT THIS YEAR'S PRE-CONTEST FOR ORCHESTRA, FRESHMAN MICHAEL BENJAMIN PLAYS HIS INSTRUMENT; THE VIOLIN. THE ORCHESTRA GOT A FIRST FOR THE ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEST

[illegible] pre-[illegible] the orchestra [illegible] for the performance [illegible] them Junior Steven Schultz played Sa[illegible] Paul Suite that night for the audience

WHY did YOU* PICK your instrument?

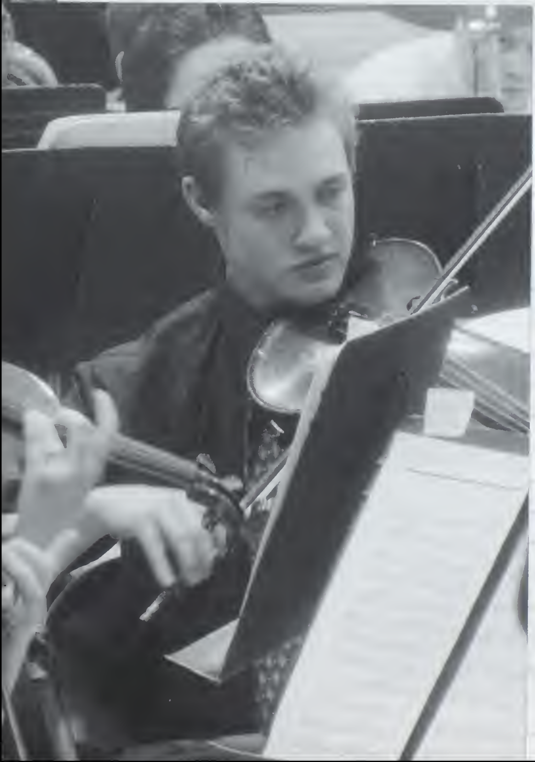
I play the bass, and I play the bass because it is such a chick magnet!

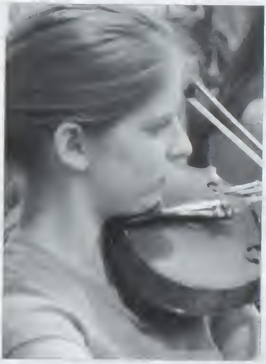
MICHEAL BODNAR, 10

I play the cello. I chose it because it has a rich, deep sound that I liked.

DANIEL LABOY, 12

EACH TIME BEFORE A CONCERT THE ORCHESTRA MEETS EARLY IN THE DAY TO PRACTICE. SENIOR KEVIN COFFMAN PRACTICES WITH GREAT COMPOSURE AND CONFIDENCE ALONG SIDE HIS FELLOW VIOLINISTS AND ORCHESTRA MEMBERS BEFORE THEY HEAD TO COMPETE TOGETHER





While playing the violin, sophomore Courtney Rogers-Sult mentally prepares for competition as she warms up by practicing her piece. As usual, the contest was a success for the orchestra.

THE INSTRUMENT, THE VIOLIN IS A UNIQUE PIECE. IT IS IN THE STRING FAMILY AND HAS AT LEAST THREE OCTAVES. SOPHOMORE KATIE MOEHL PLAYS HER VIOLIN DURING THE PRE-CONTEST CONCERT.

AT PRE-CONTEST CONCERT, CERTAIN ORCHESTRA PLAYERS DRESSED UP IN CELEBRATION TO THEIR CONTEST AHEAD. SOPHOMORE KRAIG KMIOTEK PLAYS HIS BASS THAT NIGHT.

Before Contest this year for the Orchestra, they performed a concert. The Orchestra this year was placed in a First place in Contest this year. They also got a First in their skill sight reading.

ON WEDNESDAY BEFORE THE ORCHESTRA CONTEST, JUNIORS REBECCA MEYERS AND MEGAN RICHMOND PLAY THEIR VIOLIN'S FOR THEIR FANS IN THE AUDIENCE. THEY PLAYED THE TUNE "SHOEBIRD" THAT NIGHT

BY: MEREDITH K. MCLEOD

SANETZNIK IS ALSO CONSIDERED A LEADER OF THE ORCHESTRA CLASS. SHE IS THE concertmaster and many of her peers find her to be an important asset to the Orchestra.

"Erica Sanetznik is our concert Master and I feel she does a great job." States senior Priscilla Ramos. Other leaders in the class include first viola chairmen, sophomore Stephanie Coffman and Christopher Bolint. There might be obvious leaders in Orchestra but as a whole they all work together to get things done.

"We all talk about how some pieces should go, and we do it however we believe is right, so for me, I feel that we all our leaders," states junior Matthew Zaper.

The majority of the Orchestra find that Orchestra is a wonderful experience. Most of the peers have been involved with Orchestra since they were in the sixth grade and the all seem to know and enjoy one another's company.

"We've had such great times. We have so many inside jokes and everyone if friends because we see each other every day for years. It has been a great experience and I am going to miss orchestra when I graduate this year." Says senior Priscilla Ramos.

EACH PLAYER IN ORCHESTRA KEEPS THEIR OWN FOCUS ON THEIR INSTRUMENT. PLAYING THE VIOLIN IS A BIG RESPONSIBILITY TO HAVE FOR FRESHMAN ANDREA FUENTES. PRACTICE IS IMPORTANT FOR EACH PLAYER IN ORCHESTRA.

Each Orchestra member gives their own time into the art of music. Junior Erica Sanetznik takes her own personal time out of her schedule to play with the La Porte Orchestra Symphony and is paid each [illegible] that she plays with them

AS LIGHTS GLARE OFF THEIR SWORDS, JROTC MEMBERS MAKE WAY FOR THE COURT DURING THE FALL HOMECOMING. THE DRAMATIC LIGHTING GRANTED BY THE FOOTBALL FIELD ONLY AUGMENTED THE PRESTIGIOUS MOOD OF THE HOMECOMING COURT.

AS THE LEADERS LOOK ON, UNDOUBTEDLY THEY ARE PROUD THAT THEIR INSTRUCTION HAS LEAD TO SUCH BENEFICIAL RESULTS AS JROTC PERFORMS DURING THE FALL HOMECOMING.

DURING HALFTIME AT THE STUDENT FACULTY BASKETBALL GAME JROTC MEMBERS RAISE BOTH THE AMERICAN AND UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS FLAGS AS STUDENTS AND STAFF LOOK ON IN REVERENCE AND AWE. RAISING THE FLAGS CAN OFTEN BE AN EMOTIONAL TIME FOR THOSE WITH LOVED ONES OVERSEAS AND THOSE WITH LOST VETERANS IN PAST WARS.

MAKING big IMPACT around here

BY: DEREK G. ANDREWS

DESPITE THE BAD RAP GIVEN TO THOSE IN JROTC, THE OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCE MADE BY THEM IN THE COMMUNITY CANNOT BE IGNORED AS MERE COMMONPLACE.

Their exceptional displays of community service polish any potential smear or proverbial smudge on their reputation as scholars, soldiers, and above all, citizens.

"It is really awesome to see the expressions on the faces of the people we help. It can be really enlightening to see that some people aren't quite as well off as most of us are," recalled junior David Wright.

JROTC's continued presence and participation in the area of community service was truly a godsend to deprived children who, until JROTC and the Toys for Tots organization touched their lives, never knew the true meaning of the holiday season.

The Lion's Club, the Portage Exchange Club, and the Christmas in April organization shared similar sentiments of gratefulness and appreciation to JROTC.

Despite all of the work for the community, JROTC was by no means all work and no play this year.

The annual JROTC Ball in November was a favorite among members, and drill meets and invites studded the calendar all year long.

"It was really fun and rewarding physically, mentally, and spiritually," remembered senior Theodore Craig.

Motivations for joining JROTC were different all across the board. Some people joined for the physical and mental betterment of themselves. Some joined because of a genuine interest and pursuance in a military career, and still others simply enjoyed associating themselves with the JROTC program here at Portage High School.

Regardless of the difference in motivation for joining, those involved in JROTC all shared similar senses of enjoyment and satisfaction in being part of an army of one.

WHAT was THE most* rewarding aspect?

Probably being in charge of a group. That really meant a lot to me.

MICHEAL BRUNSMAN, 12

The most rewarding thing for me this year was Christmas in April.

STEVEN KONOPASEK, 9

AS THEY SALUTE EACH OTHER AND THEIR FLAG WITH PRIDE AND ADMIRATION OF WHAT IT REPRESENTS, JUNIOR DIANA HARRINGTON DEMONSTRATES HER DELIGHT IN HER COUNTRY

AT HALFTIME DURING THE STUDENT FACULTY BASKETBALL GAME THE DRILL TEAM PERFORMED WHAT THEY TRULY ARE TO THE AUDIENCE. EACH ONE OF THEM WORKED REALLY HARD AND DEDICATED A LOT OF TIME TO PREPARE FOR THIS [illegible]

* WHAT is YOUR goal for the year? *

Up Close a Personal Again

"To be stronger and leaner."

*Mitch Slowik, 10

"To get as much knowledge about Tae-Kwon-Do as I possibly can."

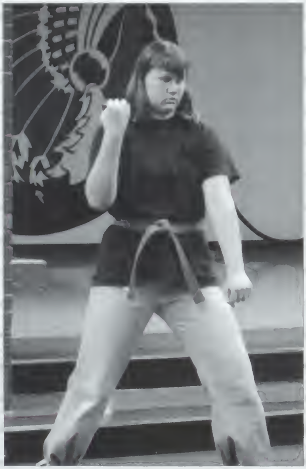
*Jagjeet Chahal, 12

"I would like to become a blue belt this year."

*Shannon JOnes, 10

"My goal for this year is to become a brown belt."

*Matthew Thode, 10



BROWN BLACK on blue

BY: JENNIFER L. WILT

IN TAE KWON-DO EVERYONE HAS A DIFFERENT GOAL. WHETHER IT IS TO GET A a blue or a brown belt, they all work equally hard to get where they want. With different goals comes different reasons why each member was inspired to join.

"My junior year, first term in gym class, Mr. Rodea came and taught us self defense and from there on I wanted to learn more about how to protect my self," explained senior Jagjeet Chahal.

Everyone who has been a part in Tae Kwon-Do has noticed mental and physical changes.

"I've learned to respect Tae Kwon-Do and the true meaning of it. It is not just used to fight, but a mental relief in ways," explained sophomore Shannon Jones.

Anyone can join Tae Kwon-Do. Practices are held after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00-4:00.

WITH THE HELP OF A PARTNER, ONE CAN STRETCH THEIR LEG TO LOOSEN UP THE MUSCLE FLEXIBILITY IS A MUST FACTOR IN TAE KWON-DO

Before practice begins stretching is a must factor. The last thing needed is a pulled muscle or an injury in Tae Kwon-Do.

IN TEACHING TECHNIQUES JOSE RODEA SHOWS HIS STUDENT A DIFFERENT STYLE OF TAE KWON-DO. MR. RODEA ALSO TEACHES SPANISH AND IS IN CHARGE OF THE GUITAR CLUB WITH WIFE MRS RODEA

A GOOD WAY TO DEVELOP MARTIAL ART SKILLS IS TO PRACTICE WITH A PARTNER. EACH MEMBER NEEDS TO WORK TOGETHER TO GAIN AND BUILD SELF DISCIPLINE

WHILE TRYING TO IMPROVE HIS MARTIAL ART SKILLS, SENIOR JAGJEET CHAHAL TAKES TIPS FROM ANOTHER MEMBER CHAHAL IS ONE OF THREE TRIPLETS FROM INDIA.

Trainer Sydney Hodsden, searches for the end of the tape before wrapping the foot of an athlete.

WHY did YOU* want to be a trainer?

I was always involved in athletics during high school career and I wanted to incorporate that into the rest of my life.

CHRIS

I thought it would be fun until I was the only girl they had to learn to be nice to me or they would not get their water. It was like I was in charge.

ABBY

TRAINER, WOODS

FINK, 10

Softball player Amber Albrecht, 10, has sensors placed on her shoulder to help rebuild it.

Before track practice begins, Trainer Chris Woods strengthens the arches of runner Bryan Gilbert, 11.

WORKING to KEEP IT together

BY: AMANDA M. BURCH

It is not always fun and games being a student trainer. After many long and tiring practices, and standing along the sidelines, sophomore, Abby Fink has no regrets in becoming a student trainer.

"The hardest parts were dealing with the football players, pre game and half time locker room duty ... and being really short because I would get lost in the crowd and no one would let me through cause they couldn't see me."

Even though a lot of the time was spent distributing water, the student trainers were right along side the athletic trainers who were Chris Woods and Sydney Hodsden. During half time Fink ran around the locker room during football games and practices making sure the players were hydrated, there were no injuries, and wrists were re-taped.

Athletic Trainer Chris Woods spends many afternoons stretching, taping, and evaluating students and their injuries. Every injury is unique and often requires weeks of exercises to rehabilitate and make sure further activity will not increase risk of additional injury.

Student trainer, Abby Fink [illegible] Chris Woods in stretching the leg of a runner.

Both of the school athletic trainers discuss the possible treatment options of and injured student.

PARTICIPANTS LAY DOWN TO PREPARE FOR THE DAY'S LESSONS AND ACTIVITIES. ON THE RETREAT, STUDENTS EXPERIENCE THINGS, AND LEARN TO LET GO OF THEIR FEARS AND PITFALLS

STUDENTS RECEIVE DIRECTION FOR AN UPCOMING ACTIVITY. THEY SPEND A LOT OF TIME PARTICIPATING IN ACTIVITIES PLANNED BY THE ADVISORS AND THE STUDENT COMPRISED STAFF

STUDENTS RECEIVE THE ONCE IN A LIFETIME CHANCE TO SIT BACK AND REFLECT ON NUMEROUS ASPECTS. JUNIOR ALFREDO SANCHEZ TAKES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO HEART

WHAT *was* THE * *most* *influential* lesson?

Natural Helpers had allowed me [illegible] outside my comfort zone and learned important life lessons about myself as well as others. I learned not to make pre judgments about others without fully knowing them and I try to allow others to see me for me.

You have to keep your eyes open to new possibilities. The experience was unlike any other, and every piece of the entire weekend makes you realize so many aspects of your life, that it is impossible not to be impacted by the weekend and the people.

SAMANTHA ELLIS, 12

ELIZABETH SEFCIK, 12

STAFF MEMBER SENIOR SARAH RACICH SITS AND CONVERSES WITH JUNIOR SARAH TUGURIAN. TUGURIAN HOPES TO BECOME ONE OF THE RAINBOW STAFF MEMBERS FOR NEXT YEAR.

PARTICIPANTS TAKE TIME TO WRITE AN INFLUENTIAL MESSAGE ON THE INFAMOUS RAINBOW BOARD. AFTER RETURNING FROM THE WEEKEND, THE BOARD IS USUALLY HUNG IN THE HALLWAY

ONCE in a LIFETIME adventure

BY: EMILY CLIVER

MUCH LIKE ALICE FALLING DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE IN THE CHILDREN'S STORY ALICE IN WONDERLAND, STUDENTS CHOSEN TO GO ON THE NATURAL HELPERS RETREAT HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THEY WILL ENCOUNTER, BUT IN THE END THEY ALL COME AWAY IN APPRECIATION OF WHAT THEY HAVE EXPERIENCED .

In every life, there are experiences and endeavors that have a way of influencing a persons view of life in one way or another, and the Natural Helpers retreat will go down as one of the experiences for the majority of students who attend the weekend retreat.

" I knew for a fact Natural Helpers was going to be an awesome experience. I loved every minute of it," said senior Christine Lozano.

Every year students are invited to go on this once in a life time retreat, and this year was no different. There are two different retreats, one in the winter and one which takes place in the spring. At least a total of 55 students attended the retreats this year, and amazing times were had by all. Some students go into the weekend with expectations and assumptions from here say by their peers, with others going into it wondering why they are even going an d questioning why they are even wasting a perfectly valuable weekend.

" I went on the Natural Helpers retreat with low expectations. That is one of the reasons why the trip was amazing. I met a lot of people on both retreats I went on. If you have already gone, I strongly suggest applying to be on staff. It was completely worth it," explained senior Holly Callahan.

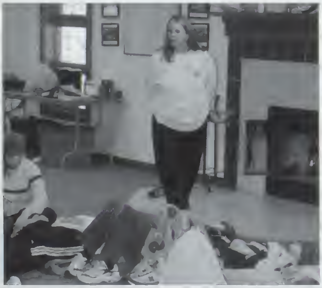
To most people Natural Helpers is a secret society, filled with hear say and gossip about what goes on. But, In reality the events of the weekend are kept under wraps for the simple fact of ensuring a surprising and unforgettable weekend for all who attend. If the person attending goes into the weekend with no expectations and an open mind, the weekend will be successful and rewarding for every participant.

" I never knew what to expect on the retreat, but it turned out to be one of the greatest experiences I have ever had. I got to know people I never thought I would and I loved everything about it. It was amazing and spectacular," said junior Samantha Lingenfelter.

Over all, Natural Helpers is a weekend filled with challenge Ed activities, group activities, and late nights filled with discussions and heart to heart conversations.

" It was awesome and I would most definitely recommend going to anyone and everyone who gets asked," said junior Trisha Sabocik.

WHILE CONVERSING, SENIOR CHRISTINE LOZANO SHOWS OFF HER HOT NEW TOE NAIL POLISH. LOZANO ALSO WAS A STAFF MEMBER THIS YEAR.



WHILE THE RETREATERS ARE BLIND FOLDED, MRS. LYNN WILSON TAKES THE GROUP THROUGH ONE OF THE VARIOUS THEMES DISCUSSED THROUGH THE RETREAT. THIS PERIOD CAN BE ONE OF THE MOST RELAXING SESSIONS HELD.

[illegible] time to sleep is very [illegible] considering the fact that there is no time to sleep [illegible] 9 hours of the day at [illegible] helpers. [illegible] Zach uses one of the [illegible] spots for a pillow to take a [illegible] nap.

IN THE MIDST OF THE NUMEROUS ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE PARTICIPANTS, ADVISER KELLI ELLIS TELLS ONE OF HER FAMOUS STORIES. RETREATERS ALWAYS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE HOT CHOCOLATE!

While taking a break, senior Matthew Kerns sips his hot chocolate. Kerns participated as a staff member this year.

WITH THE RETREAT DIVIDED INTO SECTIONS, THE CLOSING OF EACH CONSISTS OF COMING TOGETHER. EACH GROUP COMES TOGETHER BY CONFIRMING THAT SECTIONS MESSAGE.

ROUND *up the* UNUSUAL suspects

BY: AMANDA BURCH

ACADEMIC CHAMPIONS EXCELLING IN SCHOOL (ACES) BANQUET HONORS TEACHERS AND PARENTS

MR. WILLIAM WILKE AND NATHAN ZIULKOWSKI

MR. ROBERT SYMER AND ASHLEY SITKO

JOSHUA MITCHELL AND MR. JOE STEVENS

MS. JEANNINE APATHY AND KATHERINE PROPER

MR. WILLIAM SCHOTT AND MEGAN MYERS

MR. TIM SOMERS AND NICOLE WILCOX

ERIC POLEWSKI AND MRS. MICHELLE VUKO

MARGARET SABIN AND MRS. GERRI KOTYUK

MR. DAN MCCOY AND DANIEL LABOY

CHRISTINA HUIZAR AND MRS. MARISSELA VILLANUEVA LYNCH

MRS. ARLENE NEILL AND KATHRYN PAUNICKA

MS. KATHY KOTYUK AND ALLISON SATTLER

According to Jagpreet Singh Chahal, there a phrase from his native India that states, "Teacher is just like a candle which burns and gives light." This simple proverb might just sum up the purpose and experience of the 2004 ACES awards and banquet.

The banquet, which is held each spring, is a way for the top 30 seniors to recognize the teacher, in all of their years of schooling, that has inspired them along the way by giving words of encouragement and helping achieve the students individual goals. The teacher receives a letter from their student and the coveted "glass apple" trophy.

While most teachers really like the apple, it is the letter from the student and the chance to sit down for friendly conversation and a meal with one another that is the true treasure of the evening.

"In addition to me being a foreign exchange student from India, all of my teachers respected my religion and appreciated my study skills. I thank all of my teachers from the bottom of my heart." Stated Chalal.

It is also a time where their educational inspirations get to sit down and enjoy a meal with the student's greatest teacher, their parents. For some, it is the first time that the teacher gets to meet the student's parents.

"In all honesty, I did not think that dinner out with my parents and one of my favorite teachers, Mr. Joshua Cavan, seemed like it was worth four years of hard work. Then at the banquet, I had a blast. It was keen to see all the students laughing and enjoying the evening with their mentors and parents." Stated Elizabeth Sefcik

Speakers for the evening include Principal Richard Kirchner, Assistant Superintendent Debra Howe and School Board President Terry Hufford along with the presentation of the American flag by the members of the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps.

"All in all, I know that it was a night that I will never forget. It turned out to be a complete honor," stated Sefcik cheerfully about her ACES experience.

LISA NILOFF AND
MR. YAN WOLFMAN

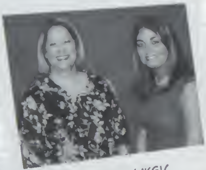
JEANNETTE OLEJNICZEK
AND MRS. SUE MCPHERSON

BRIANNA ELLIOTT AND
MRS. JODI BARNUM

MR. MARSTON MUNDT
AND KARA LANE

2004 ACES

JAGPREET SINGH CHALAL
AND MRS. SHEILA PARKER



MS. DONNA YAKSIC
AND KRISTEN GEROS

MRS. FAYE GEORGIADIS
AND SHERI LEVACK

MR. JOHN ILES
AND CHRISTOPHER ISAAC

MR. MYRON FESSLER
AND NICOLE HANNA

NICHOLAS MILLS AND
MR. ROBERT PARKER

MR. JAMES DOUGLAS
AND KELLY HIGGENS

MRS. LINDA LEMOND AND
CASSANDRA VANDERGRIFF

TERRY EASTON AND
MRS. MARJORIE SLAMKOWSKI

MS. BARBARA ENGLAND
AND ELYSE RADAKOVICH

ELIZABETH SEFCIK AND
MR. JOSHUA CAVAN

HEATHER ANTHONISZ AND
MS. CHERYL ADAMS

MR. DAVID MASTY
AND JERALD BALTA

ANTHONY LAINGREN AND
MS. DELLA HUTTON

EMOTION *is* ART

BY: AMANDA STASIK

Art is expressed in countless ways and each person has his or her favorite. Whether it is sculpting a masterpiece out of clay or drawing on the back of your notebook. Art is full of emotion and excitement, which is something the members of art club can truly appreciate.

"I love to doodle, it gets me through my days. I have been doing it forever and I've always just loved doing it," states freshman Bryana Fravel.

Of the many different projects and forums that could have been chosen the members of art club spent their time sculpting.

They were given the difficult task of sculpting an emotion. Members picked their own emotion, such as; anger, anxiety, envy, happiness, jealousy, longing, peace, or suffering.

"I choose longing as my emotion and I just hope it makes sense to people," says senior Victoria Keyser.

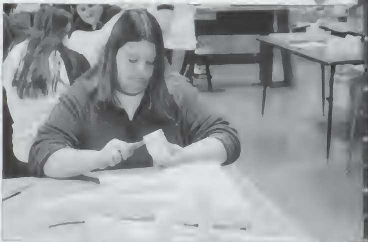
When finished each abstract emotion formed from blocks of foam were painted. They were then placed together to create a relief mural, or a collage.

"I would very much like to see our relief sculpture put on display for the public to view," explains junior Chrissy Webber.

Whether or not the mural is displayed for the public, those evolved can take pride in their great accomplishment. Many hours of many months were spent Tuesdays after school, where members showed their passion for art through their emotions.

"My emotions are definitely my muse, whether it is shown through my writing or my drawing, my passion for art is truly illustrated," explains junior Kandice Wallskog.

Story By: Amanda Stasik



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WHO INSPIRES YOU?

"ANDY WARHOL, I JUST LOVE HIS UNIQUE WAY OF EXPRESSING HIMSELF AND HIS USE OF COLOR"

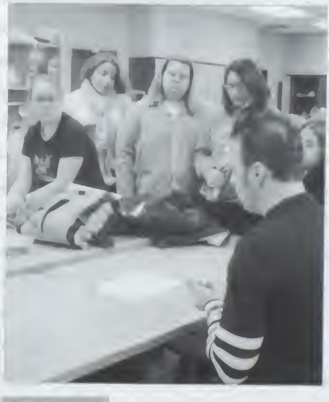
JUNIOR HEATHER WATSON

"PICASSO OR MICHELANGELO BECAUSE THEY SHOW BEAUTY IN DIFFERENT WAYS THAT HOLD SO MUCH MEANING"

JUNIOR KANDICE WALLFER

"PICASSO, I REALLY ENJOYED HIS BLUE PERIOD."

JUNIOR CHRISSY WEBBER



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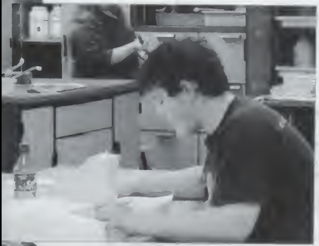

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WHERE the CREATIVITY flows

BY: KIMBERLY REDDEN

Three of the most creative, educational, and expressive organizations the school has to offer may be the three organizations were friendships come first.

Reading Club meets every fifth week, Writer's Block meets every Thursday and Saga has it own class. When sitting in on one of the meetings, the first thing one will notice is how close everyone is. Each individual has their own nickname that was given to them by the other members of the group. This gives the group a friendly comfortable environment where no one has to be shy to be themself, which gives the opportunity to expressive themselves fully.

"The relationships and dynamics between members are great! We all feel comfortable sharing with each other," stated senior Nicole Wilcox president of Writer's Block.

Besides the friendships that are built, the organizations do things such as the Haunted Hay Ride, play games like "Whose Line is It Anyway" read poems they have written, Poetry Slam (produced the Saga), and read a book every month. The three are very involved organizations. In the organizations, there is a great variety of different writing styles and way to express one's self.

"You are opened to different genres that you may not use otherwise," said senior Sallie Martinez.

Saga is a student publication. All pieces that are in the Saga are written and published by students. The process they choose on what to put in the Saga is by reading the class's work, then they all take a vote on whether or not it should be published. It takes a lot of hard work from all members involved.

Reading Club votes on a book to read every five weeks. After they choose the book they have the freedom of reading the book within the next weeks.

After that time period, they gather together to discuss the choosen book they read.

At the Writer's Block meetings, each person has the opportunity to read aloud a piece they have composed or that they have found by a different writer and share it with the rest of the club. Than other members can give feedback on what they thought about the piece.

The clubs are not strictly reading or writing, they also do many fun things throughout the year such as the games, parties and the Haunted Hayride that they participate in.

These organizations also not only offer fun things to do after school but also can assist someone to their class work. English classes can be advantages in helping and developing each of the writers skills.

"Writer's Block has helped channel my creativity. At Writer's Block, I get a lot of inspiration. These things help in my writings at school," explained senior Joseph Faraone.

This year the Saga and Poetry Slam turned out very successful overall, this is all due to the hard work that members put into making them great.

WHAT's THE Best Part of your organization?

Saga, Writer's Block, or Reading Club

"I love having someone you can discuss a writing with because writing is more fun with friends."
*Felicia Hendricks, 9

I love making commericals and the co-editor singing when we are frustrated."
*Victoria Keyser, 12

"My favorite thing would be the awesome friendships and how funny all the members are."
*Sallie Martinez, 12

"The other members and listening to everyone 's writing style."
*Edward Giordano, 9

INFORMING *students,* WORKING together

BY: JESSICA L. HODGES

Each year the Pow Wow staff puts out newspapers upon newspapers to the students which inform them on things such as issues around school, local bands, and other topics students are interested in.

The students receive papers every other Friday during SSR. In order for each issue to be successfully put together the entire staff must work together diligently. Each staff member has a specific job to do in order for the issues to be put out to print in time.

Assignments range from writing to page designing and also editing. This year the position of editor in chief was given to Elizabeth Dilts. Nicholas Mills aided Dilts in editing this year's paper.

A lot of stressors are involved in completing even a single issue of the Pow Wow. Each class member must cooperate and do their part to get everything accomplished. Staff members have individual jobs they are obligated to fulfill in the time they are allotted to finish their assignments in. Without teamwork and responsibility from the staff it would not be possible for the paper to be as successful as it has been this past year.

The student writers explore a variety of different topics with each new story they write. After writing many stories the staff keeps in mind their favorite topics and the best articles they have written in the past.

"The best article I have written this year would be the story about drinking and parties because it sent a good message out to the students," explains writer Gina Gabon.

Not all the stories written must be completely serious and straight to the point. Some may be satirical and humorous.

"The best story of mine that has been published this year would be the article on the cafeteria's hot ham and cheese sandwiches because the next day the lunch ladies brought the sandwich back to the menu," states writer Robert Gifford.

Throughout the year all the staffers put a lot of thought into the papers sent out for the rest of the school to enjoy. With every new year the staff improves the newspaper from the years prior. They works amazingly hard and undoubtedly surpasses their goal.

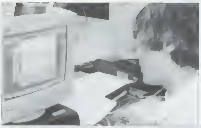


PHOTO BY:JESSICA HODGES

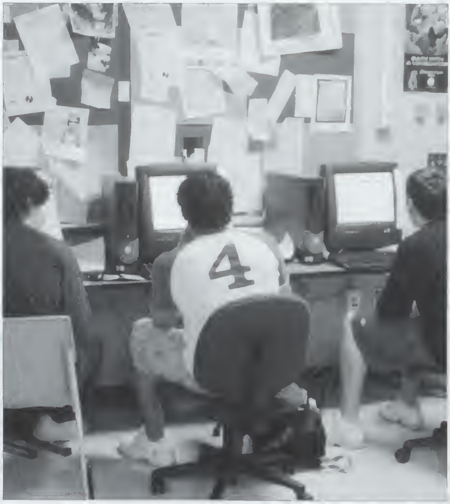


PHOTO BY:JESSICA HODGES

PHOTO BY:JESSICA HODGES

WHAT'S MOST *stressful* about deadlines?

"GETTING PEOPLE TO COOPERATE AND HAVING A PHOTOG AVAILABLE TO TAKE THEIR PICTURES."
STEPAHNIE TANIS,10

"AFTER YOU CALL GETTING THE INFORMATION AND QUOTES YOU NEED."
NICOLE JUSTICE,10

PHOTO BY:JESSICA HODGES

PHOTO BY:JESSICA HODGES

MORE than JUST acting

BY: KIMBERLY REDDEN

THE THESPIANS CARRY PERHAPS THE LARGEST WORKLOAD OF ALL ORGANIZATIONS, BUT THEY PULL IT OFF WITH WHAT SEEMS TO BE FLAWLESSNESS.

The thespians do an excellent job with everything they are involved in.

The thespians pride themselves on putting on productions that make going to the show a unique experience.

"I enjoy the awesome feeling of putting on a fabulous one of a kind show, whether it be on stage or behind the scenes," explained senior Emily Cliver.

The thespians do more than just put on shows, they have parties where they can spend time with one another.

"I really love the parties that we have they have a lot of interesting games and the people are really fun," explained sophomore Stephanie Hanna.

Besides the productions, the banquet is also a big event. seniors have the opportunity to say farewell to the members and people that were apart of the productions. They can also give a small performance. At the banquet various awards are given to those invovled.

But being a thespian is not about receiving awards or recognition, thespians is an organization for people who truly enjoy the theater and having fun.

[illegible]

[illegible]

While singing All I Care About is Love, senior Daniel Martinez charms his audience one last time, which in this case means everyone at the banquet. This was Martinez's first production at the high school: he had a leading role, lawyer Billy Flinn in Chicago.

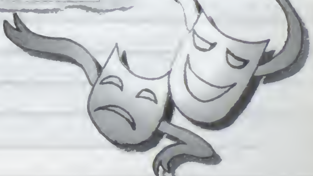
WHAT'S BEST about being a thespian?

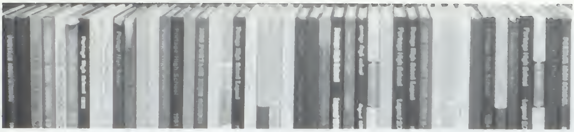
Everyone in thespians gets along, which is somewhat unusual for most of the groups at our school. We also have many parties through out the year. We have our own little family in this organization

I love being a thespian because it is one of the most creative organization our school has to offer. The friendships that are built through it is great too. I look forward to the meetings and productions.

TRISHA SABOCIK, 11

STEPHANIE TANIS, 10





Just hanging around, junior Tahana Good tests out the durability of a hanger. Good moved to Portage in the middle of the year from West Virginia.

IN THIS CASE, TWO HEADS ARE NOT BETTER THAN ONE, THREE ARE. SOPHOMORES KATHERINE BATISTA, KIMBERLY REDDEN, AND JESSICA HODGES PUT ON THEIR THINKING CAPS TO WRITE A STORY

WRAPPING it ALL together

BY: JENNIFER L. WILT

THIS YEAR THE YEARBOOK STAFF SREAD ITS HORIZON. THE STAFF HAD QUITE A FEW NEWCOMERS AND INCREASED THE STAFF SIZE. THEY TOOK ON A HUGE CHALLENGE,SOMETHING no school has ever done before. Instead of a traditional book, or a spirit book such as last year's book *Scream Until You're Red in the Face* , they wanted to create a book that was new and fresh, and possibly even set a trend. This book is based on a notebook/ journal theme. The idea was inspired by Kurt Cobain's own personal journal that was published in memory of his death. This book was created to represent every student body, because in some point of time everyone has written or jotted down a piece of memory.

For this book to be possible, they had to undergo new obstacles. A new program called Dream Suite and their famous scanner, helped accomplish the elements wanted reached.

"We wanted some of the designs to look realistic and not so digitalized," stated senior and editor Elizabeth Sefcik.

The new ideas were very time consuming, but they made it work.

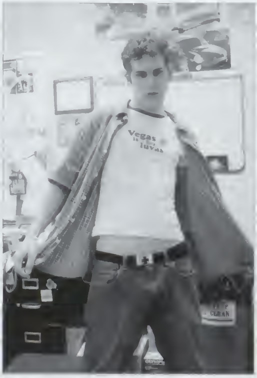
"At some points we had to compensate perfection because of time," stated senior Emily Cliver.

For the second year in a row now, the staff held a lock-in. The purpose for the great lock-in was created so the students could stay at the school all night long and continue on into the morning, working on their unfinished work. Some could not survive the whole night staying awake so many ended up crashing out on the classroom floor and in the commons.

The staff truly feels this is the best book published from our high school, and only hopes to top this one next year.

When picturing people in the yearbook, identification of the person needs to be at hand. Seniors Samantha Ellis and Ashley Villa link up students grades and classrooms.

THIS YEAR THE STAFF DID NOT JUST CONSIST OF GIRLS, THERE WERE TWO BOYS. SENIOR JORDAN DECKARD (A.K.A. JORDANGER) STRIKES A SEXY BUT QUESTIONABLE POSE FOR THE CAMERA.



WHY is YB* fun to join?

ELIZABETH SEFCIK, 12

"You get to put your heart into a product that is timeless. Years from now our work will remain to represent our generation."

EMILY CLIVER, 12

"It allows you to have a creative outlook and gives you a break from your regular strenuous classes."

MEREDITH MCLEOD, 11

"Well duhhhh... it is better than math and I get to hang out with the amazing KY. Plus, you get the joy of finishing lazy people's work."

What came first...the chicken or the egg? Junior Teri Harrington interprets a baby chick being hatched from an egg. In this case, the garbage bag is used instead of an egg shell.

[illegible] attending a yearbook convention at Valparaiso University, juniors Kelley Yault and Meredith McLeod [illegible] to editors. Both of them are candidates to be editors next year.

TECHNOLOGY IMPROVED THE PHOTOGRAPHIC QUALITY OF THE YEARBOOK BY THE USE OF DIGITAL CAMERAS. CO-EDITOR AND SENIOR ELIZABETH SEPCIK WAS SEEN AT MANY DIFFERENT EVENTS WITH CAMERA IN HAND BECAUSE, AS CO-EDITOR, IT WAS ONE RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE THEIR WERE A PLETHORA OF PICTURES FROM WHICH TO CHOOSE.

AT THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY'S GOOD-BYE PARTY, SOPHOMORE ALISHA LIRA CAPTURES THE EMOTIONS OF THE EVENING. LIRA PUTS DEDICATION INTO NOT ONLY YEARBOOK BUT POMS TOO.

Moments of silliness where often shared during the course of the year on staff. Senior Jordan Deckard gives bunny ears secretly to staff member, junior Derek Andrews.

AFTER FALLING OUT OF HER CHAIR, JUNIOR ASHLEY JALOVECKY TACKLES SENIOR EMILY CLIVER. BOTH HAD ROLES IN CHICAGO.

* WHY is YB different from other organizations? *

Up Close and Personal Again

"Not only do we spend time in here during the school day, but after school as well!"

*Katherine Batista, 10

"Most organizations do not have to come back in the summer to work!"

*Teri Harrington, 11

"You learn how to manage your time, but still have fun in the process!"

*Kimberly Redden, 10

"We have a book that we created to show to our friends when we are old and wrinkled."

*Kelley Yudt, 11

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Class Notes

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[illegible] of the [illegible] staff [illegible] the [illegible] edition of the student yearbook [illegible] fourth [illegible], after [illegible], and [illegible] the summer.

[illegible] was printed by [illegible] [illegible] ty, [illegible] Keene [illegible]

The yearbook [illegible] of [illegible] pages. The [illegible] copies printed were made [illegible] paper. The [illegible] cover was [illegible] staff [illegible] of a Herff Jones professional artist.

The theme of the yearbook was "[illegible]" with the intent of making the yearbook [illegible].

[illegible] Photography, 2626 McCool Rd .Portage, IN was the [illegible] photographer and produced [illegible] photographs were [illegible] staff. All photos [illegible] by a [illegible], were taken by the adviser Mr. Mark J. Karmen [illegible], the professional photographers of Alderson [illegible].

The yearbook was first [illegible] summer registration [illegible] for $[illegible] each. The yearbook [illegible] price $[illegible] per term thereafter. Yearbook [illegible] Mr. Mark J. Karmen [illegible] the [illegible] Mr. Richard [illegible].

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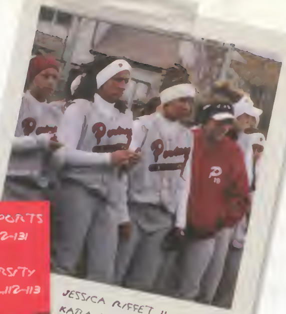

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